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MEMOIRS
OF
JOHN FOTHERGILL, M.D. &c.
BY
John Coakley Lettson.
THE FOURTH EDITION.



Feilder sculp.

LONDON,
Printed for C. Dilly.
1786.



P R E F A C E.

IN 1781 a selection of Dr. FOTHERGILL's Works was published by Dr. *John Elliott*, entitled "*A Complete Collection of the Medical and Philosophical Works of JOHN FOTHERGILL, M. D. &c.*" to which was prefixed an Account of his Life in twenty octavo pages.

The late Dr. *William Hird*, of *Leeds* in *Yorkshire*, published in 1781 "*An Affectionate Tribute to the Memory of Dr. FOTHERGILL*," in quarto, containing twenty-nine pages.

Dr. *Gilbert Thompson*, of *London*, read before the Society of Physicians, who conducted the Medical Observations and Inquiries, now extended to six volumes, and of which Society Dr. FOTHERGILL

A

was

was President at the time of his decease, “ *Memoirs of the Life, and a View of the Character of the late Dr. JOHN FOTHERGILL,*” which was published in 1782. It contains forty-five octavo pages.

About the year 1766 a number of Physicians, selected from the Licentiates, formed themselves into a Society, which has been uninterruptedly kept up, and the number of its members have gradually increased. At their meetings Medical communications are introduced, and usually a Memoir is read by a member, voluntarily according with the request of the Society.

At the time of Dr. FOTHERGILL's death he was President likewise of this Society, and as it was well known that he had long favoured me with his acquaintance, and permitted me to reside with him, both in town and in his annual retreat into the country, I was requested to lay before this Society some account of their deceased President.

My gratitude and inclination coincided with their wishes. In my infancy I crossed the *Atlantic*, and in the sixth year of my age acquired the parental friendship of his brother, the pious and benevolent *Samuel Fothergill*: he was my guardian, directed my education, and bequeathed me to the protection of a physician, deservedly reputed one of the first ornaments of the age. My medical creation was his, and my success in life, the result. I hesitated not to fulfil the wishes of the Society, of which I was a member, and read before them *Some Account of the Life of Dr. Fothergill*, at their meetings, held *July* the 17th and *October* the 23d, 1782.

As no complete Collection of the Writings of this celebrated Physician had been given to the Public, I felt myself, under the obligations of gratitude and affection, impelled to fulfil this posthumous debt in an elegant and correct edition of his Works, both in quarto and octavo, to each of which was prefixed *Some Account of Dr. FOTHERGILL's Life*. To suit readers in

general, who might not be inclined to purchase the Works at large, the same *Account* was printed separately.


This *Account* having been for some time out of print, I have been induced to make a new edition, which may be properly considered as the fourth, now published under the title of “ *Memoirs of JOHN FOTHERGILL, M. D. &c.*” As expence has never been an object of consideration with me in whatever concerns the memory of my deceased friend, I have embellished it with Engravings of the Heads of some of those persons who were the more early associates and friends of his youth.

I have lately collected some materials for adding a volume of Memoirs with Engravings of his later associates, the publication of which will depend upon contingencies, which prevent me at present from ascertaining how far my inclination may be fulfilled.

I am

I am particularly desirous of introducing some Memoirs of Dr. *Benjamin Franklin*, which probably may appear in a second volume, should the information I expect from *America* render those materials I have already collected, sufficiently interesting for public inspection.

J. C. LETTSOM.



For my own part, when I recollect what I have lost
in him, the sensible, firm, and upright friend, the able,
honest, and experienced physician, the pleasing instruc-
tive companion of a social hour, expression fails me.

FOTHERGILL'S LIFE OF RUSSELL.



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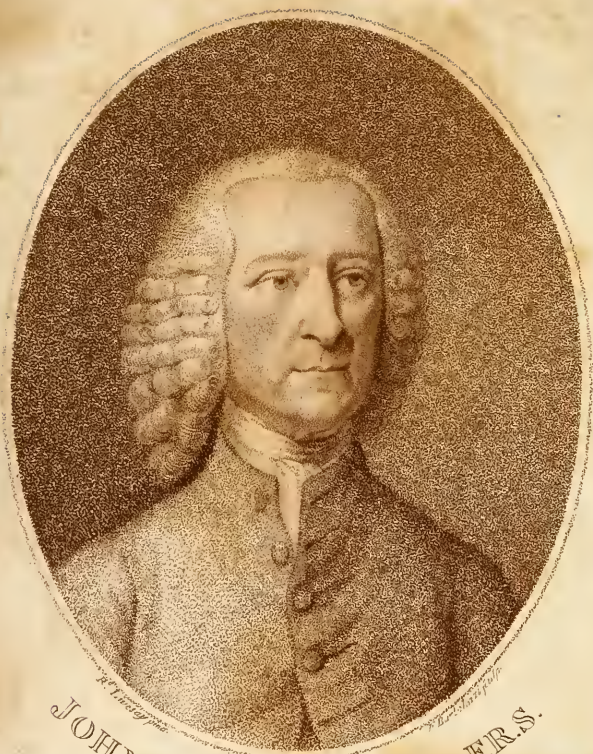
Amisi enim, amisi vitæ meæ Testem,
Rēctorem, Magistrum.

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PLIN SEC.



PLIN SEC.



JOHN FOTHERGILL M.D. F.R.S.

*Cui quas artes, sua dona laetus
Et herbam et Venae salientis ictum
Scire concepsit, celere et medendi
Delius usum.*

From a Bust in the Possession of Dr. Lettsom

M E M O I R S

O F

JOHN FOTHERGILL, M.D. F.R.S. &c.

Read before the MEDICAL SOCIETY of LONDON,
July 17, and October 23, 1782.

THOUGH the admiration which an elevated character excites, may be diminished by familiar intercourse ; yet that affection which virtue begets, and that respect which mental superiority inspires, are as permanent as the causes which produced them. You, Gentlemen, who recently enjoyed the conversation of our late President, will call to mind the dignity with which he conveyed easy communication that never tired, because it always improved ; and, with painful recollection,

B regret

regret that our once honoured associate is no more !

But he that feels the loss of a friend to whom he owed the obligation of useful instruction, or remembers the salutary aid that renewed the vigour of health, or that generosity which averts the misery of families and individuals, naturally wishes, and wishes with ardour, to revive in the page of history, virtues which were thus incessantly directed to the advantage and happiness of mankind. In attempting before you this grateful task, while I feel with concern how unequal my abilities are to my own wishes, or may be to your expectations, I trust to your indulgence, where biographical relation must be so inadequate to the zeal of friendship.

JOHN FOTHERGILL, the father of the deceased physician of the same name, was born at Wensleydale, in Yorkshire, in the year 1676, and was a member of the religious society now generally denominated Quakers. He resided at Carr-End, the family

mily estate of a preceding generation, where our late President Dr. JOHN FOTHERGILL was born, on the eighth of March 1712: he was one of many children; though not the only one, who in early life exhibited instance of genius and superior understanding.

His mother was the daughter of Thomas Hough, a person of fortune, who resided near Frodsham, in Cheshire, from under whose care he was placed at school in the same town, where he continued till his twelfth year, and was afterwards removed to Sedberg-School, in Yorkshire, then and since famous for classical literature and mathematics. That his progress here was considerable, I may safely assert, as the late Gilbert Thompson, near Warrington, whose memory I have many motives to value, and whose learning and judgment no person who has been under his tuition can doubt, told me, that he was his school-fellow, and in the same classes, but that he never was able to rise above him, though constantly excited by a spirited emulation to obtain that superiority.

About his sixteenth year, when his school education was finished, he was placed with Benjamin Bartlett, an eminent apothecary at Bradford, in Yorkshire; who before had been the tutor of Dr. Hillary, and since of Dr. Chorley; and whose amiable manners and exemplary conduct had conferred upon him the character of a good man, while his medical abilities and instructions had rendered his house the seminary of many distinguished physicians.

The youth, who was destined at a future time to become one of the first physicians of the age, soon afforded such instances of superior sagacity, as induced his intelligent master to permit him, at an early period, to visit and prescribe for his patients; which he did with so much approbation, that his contemporaries in that neighbourhood have always spoken, in terms of respectful recollection, of his great assiduity and practical success.

When his apprenticeship expired, he removed to Edinburgh, to study physic in
the

the colleges of medicine, prior to his settling in the country as an apothecary, in which capacity he was originally designed to act. At this time the professorial chairs were filled with the Doctors **Monro**, **Alston**, **Rutherford**, **Sinclair**, and **Plummer**, all of whom had issued from the **Boerhaavian-School**, and whose eminent abilities their pupil lived to commemorate, in his "Account of the Life of the late Dr. **Russell**," at this early period his fellow student and intimate associate.

The first of these professors, that great anatomical oracle, **Monro**, attended to his numerous pupils with such anxious care, as justly denominated him the Father of the College; and no man knew better how to discriminate the genius of his pupils. **Dr. FOTHERGILL** early caught his attention, in whom he discovered such powers of mind, as promised the most fertile expansion at maturity, and induced the venerable master to urge his pupil to enlarge their cultivation, by a longer residence at the university than was at first proposed.

proposed. He that is born with genius, and an inclination to attempt great things, is generally endowed with vigour of mind to perform them ;

—*Possunt, quia posse videntur**. VIRG.

Great natural powers, however, are often combined with great diffidence, which was certainly the situation of Dr. FOTHERGILL at this time, who has often told me, that his opinion of his own abilities was such as reconciled his mind to move in a more subordinate sphere. It may therefore be primarily attributed to the discernment of this eminent professor, that his pupil was still destined to occupy a higher station, to redeem victims of disease by his skill ; and he survived long enough to see that he had not made a false estimate of his genius ; while his industrious application, and ardour after instruction, tended to confirm the professor's sagacity ; for as he advanced in knowledge, he found daily excitements to further progress.

* For they can conquer, who believe they can.

DRYDEN.

At

At this period some of the professors delivered lectures in Latin, and others in English. Dr. FOTHERGILL adopted a method of improving upon both, which it may not be improper to mention here : it is what he has since recommended to me ; and whoever follows his example, will be apt to recommend it to others ; for much is due to him who first breaks the way to knowledge, and leaves only to his successors the task of smoothing it. He took notes of the heads of each lecture, and on his return to his lodgings, he translated those into Latin which had been given in English, and then carefully consulted and compared the opinions both of the ancients and moderns upon the subject of the lectures, with the notes themselves ; after which he added such remarks on each, as his reading and reflection furnished : by this means he gained a knowledge of the ancients, as well as the moderns ; he enlarged his ideas, and acquired the early habit of examining opinions, and discriminating between those merely speculative, and those which resulted from
fact

fact and experiment ;—in a word, he hereby necessarily acquired new powers of reflection, and an increased energy of judgment*.

A mode, not dissimilar, he followed in his studies : when any medical case occurred worthy of remark, and there are few cases but to a student of medicine are important, he examined various authorities upon the same subject, and from these combined means drew a comparative result : what he had adopted with so much success, he recommended many years afterwards, in an epistolary address with which he condescended to favour me, wherein he concludes with recommending the “ careful
“ perusal of Hippocrates, and also of
“ Aretæus and Celsus ; one can never,” he adds, “ be too well acquainted with
“ the knowledge contained in the first,

* This relation I had from the Doctor himself ; and since his decease, I saw his *Materia Medica Lectures*, which were sent to me by my ingenious friend J. Cockfield, of Upton.

“ nor with the elegant expressions of the
 “ last.”

Soon after he had finished his studies at Edinburgh, the celebrated professor I have already mentioned, who was completing the fourth edition of his great work of Osteology, which has ever since been deemed the most perfect performance in this branch of science, and whose genius led him to enrich his subject with ample reflection, and various philosophical and practical facts, apprized of the inquisitive spirit of his pupil, not only condescended to ask, but even to adopt his opinions in some instances. It must have been highly grateful to the Father of the college, to see the rays which had issued from his mind, thus reflected with such increased lustre*.

* The first edition of *Monro's Osteology* was printed in the year 1726; a second edition was given to the public in 1732, and a third about six years afterwards: it was the fourth edition, which appeared in 1746, that he referred to Dr. FOTHERGILL; and I am informed that he paid the same respectful compliment to Dr. Cuming, and gratefully acknowledged the assistance these intimate friends afforded him.

We see not unfrequently ingenious youths diverted by the ardour of imagination into irregularities, which length of time, and the strength of maturer reason, with difficulty correct; but in the present subject of biography, we search in vain for the season of youthful indulgence: as he adopted by his conduct, so he claimed an hereditary portion of his father's virtues, and has left us to judge of his youth, by numbering his years, rather than by recounting his pursuits*.

It

* Besides his other useful engagements at Edinburgh, Dr. FOTHERGILL kept a diary of his actions, and of such occurrences as happened to him, in classical Latin, as I have been informed by a gentleman who once had a glimpse of it, on the following occasion: The Doctor requested his company in a visit to one of the professors, with whom he was more particularly acquainted; they breakfasted with the professor, who received them in an easy and gracious manner, as they went to *hear*, and left the choice of the conversation in a great measure to the professor, who was cheerful, in good spirits, and talkative; but the principal part of his conversation consisted of some lively entertaining adventures, that befel him while he was a student at London, Paris, and Leyden. The gentleman saw the insertion of this visit in the Doctor's diary, in which his account of the professor's conversation

It was in the year 1736 that he graduated at Edinburgh, and printed his Thesis “*de Emeticorum usu* ;” soon after which he came to London, and attended the practice of St. Thomas’s hospital. Here he was at once furnished with abundant opportunities of examining the doctrines of the schools, and comparing them with a series of facts drawn from disease and dissection ; and I have heard it related by some of his contemporaries, that his application here was unremitting, and his remarks on the cases were often listened to by his seniors. Objects of poverty have all those feelings alive, that can rightly estimate the assiduity and the sympathy of those to whom they look up for succour ; they are equally jealous of apparent neglect, and grateful to seeming tenderness ; and however unremitting the diligence of the Doctor might have been to others, his humanity to the poor was still more conspicuous to them : to be diligent was his interest, to be humane was the spontaneous effusion of his heart : which the

conversation was related in these few words, “*Multa dixit, non multa didicimus.*”

patients saw and felt ; and when he left the hospital, he soon experienced the pleasing confirmation of both.

However dark some may represent the propensities of mankind, extensive knowledge of the poor has confirmed me in an opinion, that they are less inclinable to complain of injuries, than to acknowledge obligations: private injuries affect individuals, and mankind are more addicted to hearken to the relation of general good, than partial evil ; and his humanity having become a subject of discussion to the miserable tenants of a sick ward, such as were discharged, not quite restored to health, found the way to the house of this amiable physician. Comfort of mind is a powerful restorative to a weakened constitution, and he who divides our miseries by his sympathy, proportionally adds to our consolation. Change of air, doubtless, contributes much to restore the fibre that has been debilitated by grief, penury, and sickness; and the same disposition which impels the mind to dwell on virtuous rather than on vicious

vicious actions, will determine the eye of gratitude to him, who last saw us emerge from misery ; to him is attributed all the merits of his predecessors, as the artist who casts the metal is less valued than he who polishes its surface.

It is, however, certain, that the poor who applied to him for relief, were loud in proclaiming the success of his practice, and gradually raised him to more lucrative employment. I mention this source of his early introduction to business, because Dr. FOTHERGILL himself has often told me how much he was indebted to this class of grateful though penniless supplicants ; and in his turn acknowledged the obligation, by humanely continuing to give advice gratis to the poor, so long as he lived, when their suffrages could no longer tend to elevate his reputation : his persevering benevolence could then alone be actuated by the innate goodness of his heart.

Ὁ ἄνθρωπος εὐεργέτης πεφυκώς*.

ANTONIN. Lib. ix.

* Man is naturally beneficent.

About

About this time, before he could have been established in any degree of general practice in his profession, he was solicited to accompany a few friends upon an excursion to the Continent ; they were persons of too many engagements at home, to admit of long residence in any one spot, and consequently could not possibly acquire an extensive or accurate knowledge of the places they visited in the compass of this desultory tour. I am persuaded, however, that it was not wholly fruitless ; for long afterwards, when I was in company with the Doctor, a gentleman who was concerned in the conveyance of some merchandize through Germany, was desirous of knowing the communications by land and water, the inland duties, and other particulars ; to which he replied with a precision of detail, that evinced the inquisitiveness of the traveller, and the useful manner in which he had employed his moments. Of the parts traversed in this excursion, the Doctor, on his return, communicated an account to his friend Dr. Cuming, of Dorchester, in a Latin letter *, which the

* Dated London, anno 1740.

latter intrusted to me ; and those places are enumerated in so concise and classical a manner, that I have taken the liberty to adopt the language of the original on this occasion :

“ * *Lustratis aliquibus Flandriæ urbibus munitissimis, per magnam Brabantiam partem migravimus; relicto quippe Gandavio, ad Bruxellensem spatiosam splendidamque urbem nosmetipsos contulimus, per oppidulum olim valle et muro vel potius aggere munitum, nomine Ask, (Isca) notissimum quidem Brabantiam incolis, quoniam exinde primò Lupulos, horumque colendi modum mutuati sunt Angli, in maximum totius Brabantiam damnum; utpote olim in hoc mercaturæ*
 “ genere

* Having examined some well-fortified cities of Flanders, and travelled through great part of Brabant ; leaving Ghent, we passed on to Brussels (a spacious splendid city) through a little town called Ask, formerly fortified with a mote and wall, or rather a bank of earth : it is well known to the inhabitants of Brabant, because the English had their hops first from this place, and here learnt the method of cultivating them, to the great loss of the whole country, which was formerly famous

“ genere fatis celebris. A *Bruxellis* itur ten-
 “ dens ad *Leodiam* hodie *Liege* Anglorum,
 “ *Luttich* Germanorum, incolarum vero
 “ *Luich*, urbem ob arcis obsidionem diu-
 “ turnam fatis celebrem, deinde ad oppi-
 “ dulum *Spadanum* et *Aquisgranum*, loca
 “ quidem toto orbe notissima. Ibi aquas
 “ minerales, hic thermæ potavi, gustavi,
 “ aliqua institutus sum experimenta, sed
 “ vulgaria quidem, ob defectum apparatus
 “ ad hanc rem idonei. Trajectum ad
 “ *Mosam*, *Sylvam Ducis* (*Bois le Duc*)
 “ *Dordrechtum*, iter ad celebre emporium
 “ *Rotterdamum* tenentes, visitavimus ;
 “ urbem *Delphensem*, villam splendidissi-
 “ mam

famous for this branch of commerce. From Brussels we went to Liege, called by the Germans Luttich, but by the inhabitants Lüich, a city celebrated for the long siege of its citadel. From hence we passed on to the Spa and Aix la Chapelle, places known to every one. At the first of these I observed the mineral waters, and at the latter the hot springs: I drank of them, and made some experiments upon them, common ones indeed, for want of a proper apparatus. We next visited Maestricht, Bois le Duc, Dordrecht, and continued our journey to that celebrated emporium Rotterdam. We passed through the city of Delft, the Hague, a very splendid village, the cities

“ *nam Hagensem, urbem Leydam, Haerle-*
 “ *nam pertransivimus ad nobilissimam Ba-*
 “ *tavorum civitatem Amstelodamum; urbe*
 “ *deinde perlustratâ, per fretum vulgo dic-*
 “ *tum Dee Zuyder Zee navigamus ad*
 “ *oppidum dictum a Batavis Worcum in*
 “ *Westfrisia, distans viginti præter propter*
 “ *milliaria a Leuwardia, nitidâ fatis et bene*
 “ *munitâ hujus provinciæ urbe primâ.*

“ Hinc tendimus ad *Groningam*, et de-
 “ mum per arenosas incultasque regiones,
 “ per que urbem *Oldenburgum*, et villam
 “ unam alteramque longe a se invicem
 “ distitam accedimus ad liberam civitatem
 “ *Bremensem*, celebre fatis emporium at-
 “ que

cities of Leyden and Haerlem, to the most noble of the Dutch cities Amsterdam. Having taken a view of it, we sailed through the strait commonly called *Dee Zuyder Zee*, to a town called by the Dutch *Worcum*, in *West-Friesland*, distant about twenty miles from *Leuwarden*, the first city of this province, neat and pretty well fortified.

From this place we went to *Groningen*, and travelling through a sandy, uncultivated country, we came to *Oldenburgh*, and passing through several villages a good distance one from another, we came to *Bremen*, a free city, a great emporium, and wealthy: here they shew to

“ que dives : hîc in cella sub templo maxi-
 “ mo cathedrali, corpora aliquot exsiccata,
 “ (humana intellige), dura firmaque, na-
 “ turâ conservata, peregrinantibus osten-
 “ duntur, nullo condimento vel arte qua-
 “ libet tractata, sed merâ quæ cellæ insit
 “ virtute conservatrice ; est locus non ad-
 “ modum profundus, et ex uno latere
 “ vento perflabilis, sicca est admodum,
 “ tota quippe circumcirca regio arenosa
 “ est. Sed licet plurimæ aliæ sunt sub
 “ eodem templo hujusmodi cavernæ, et
 “ etiam sub aliis et vicinis templis, nulla
 “ adhuc invenitur quæ eâdem dote potitur.
 “ Corpora circa duodecem habent integra,
 “ ex quibus unum ducentos circiter annos
 “ habet ;

travellers, in a cellar under the great cathedral church,
 several human bodies, dried, hard and firm, preserved
 merely by the antiputrescent quality of the cavern, having
 had no preparation or assistance from art whatever.
 The place is not very deep, is exposed to the wind
 on one side, and exceedingly dry, as the whole country
 round about is sandy. But, although there are similar
 caverns under the same church, and also under other
 neighbouring churches, none has yet been found, that
 possesses the same virtue. There are twelve whole
 bodies, one of which is about two hundred years old ;
 another,

“ habet ; alterum, centum et quinquaginta,
 “ reliqua, diverfarum ætatum et tempo-
 “ rum ; penitus exfucca videntur et levia,
 “ firma tamen adeo ut, impofitâ sub capite
 “ manu, totum corpus abſque minima flex-
 “ ura facile poſſis erigere. Magnam nitri
 “ copiam cauſam eſſe aſſerunt incolæ, quod
 “ in tanta quantitate erui poteſt, ut ſingu-
 “ læ libræ terræ hujus cavernæ exhibent
 “ uncias duas nitri puriſſimi *.”

This epistle contains reflections equally pertinent and ingenious, on the manners of the people whom he viſited ; and concludes with juſt and animated praiſes of mental liberty, and the moſt cordial profeſſions of friendſhip for his correſpondent.

another, one hundred and fifty ; the reſt are of different ages : they ſeem perfectly dry and light ; but ſo firm, that, by placing the hand under the head, one may eaſily raiſe the whole body, without the leaſt flexure in any part. The inhabitants attribute theſe phænomena to the great quantity of Nitre, which may be dug up in ſuch plenty, that every pound weight of the earth of this cavern contains two ounces of the pureſt nitre.

* Since more fully enlarged upon by Wraxall, in his Travels.

After this excursion on the Continent, he returned to London, and took up his residence in Gracechurch-Street; we may therefore date the commencement of his practice in the year 1740, for though he graduated in 1736, the intermediate time was chiefly employed in attending the hospitals, and laying that foundation, upon which was afterwards to be raised a distinguished superstructure. His Thesis, as it was never before the present time translated into English, with all the merit it certainly possesses, could not excite the public attention, or acquire popular approbation, and consequently could not materially contribute to extend his reputation: the same might be admitted respecting his “Remarks on the neutral Salts of Plants, and
“ on Terra Foliata Tartari,” published in the same year in the Edinburgh Medical Essays, as subjects merely restricted to medical disquisition.

In 1744, his “Essay on the Origin of
“ Amber,” and his “Observations on the
“ Manna Persicum,” were inserted in the
Philosophical

Philosophical Transactions: and likewise, in 1745, his “ Letter to Dr. Mead,” and his “ Observations on a Case of recovering “ a Man dead in Appearance.” In the subsequent year he was admitted a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians.

Men of great talents do not always employ them on temporary or popular subjects; but on the other hand, their works, like the precious metals, are not injured by their antiquity: the preceding publications were more solid than brilliant; calculated rather to ensure future reputation than present emolument, and will be read now with as much pleasure as when they were first published. What he endeavoured to prove, to illustrate and enforce, respecting the recovery of drowned persons, has been since attempted in most maritime states of Europe; and he enjoyed the pleasure of living to see those rules adopted with success in this metropolis, by the ardour of Dr. Hawes and others, which, upwards of thirty years before, he had recommended by his pen. To whatever merit these Observations

vations were justly entitled, the subject at that time excited no popular attention, though since prosecuted with a zeal that does honour to humanity; it could not, therefore, have contributed, in any considerable degree, to elevate his character; yet at this time he had acquired a large share of employment in his profession, and his emoluments were then greater than what many physicians of long standing at this time can boast. He was ever averse to speaking of the pecuniary emoluments of his profession; and excepting what he intimated in the present instance, he never, to my recollection, mentioned the subject; and upon this occasion it was collected from collateral circumstances, and not from immediate information. Nothing hurt his feelings more, than estimating the profession of physic upon lucrative advantages; the art of healing, he considered in that sacred point of view, which connected it with a conscientious principle of action. “ My
“ only wish,” he declares, “ was to do
“ what little business might fall to my
“ share, as well as possible; and to banish
“ all

“ all thoughts of practising phyfic as a
 “ money-getting trade, with the fame foli-
 “ citude, as I would the fuggeltions of
 “ vice or intemperance*.” And when
 the fuccefs of his practice had raifed him to
 the fummit of reputation and emolument,
 he feemed actuated by the fame fentiment.
 “ I endeavour,” fays this confcientious
 phyfician, “ to follow my bufinefs, becaufe
 “ it is my duty, rather than my intereft ;
 “ the laft is infeparable from a juft dif-
 “ charge of duty, but I have ever wifhed
 “ to look at the profits in the laft place,
 “ and this wifh has attended me ever fince
 “ my beginning†.”

If this language be foreign to the man
 of the world, it is the only ambition of a
 man of principle ; and no phyfician will
 be worfe for its perufal or imitation, nor
 of what he afterwards communicated upon
 the fame fubject. “ At my firft fetting
 “ out,” he obferves, “ I wifhed moft

* Letter to the Editor, dated Lea-Hall, anno 1769.

† Ditto, dated anno 1770.

“ fervently,

“ fervently, and I endeavour after it
 “ still, to do the business that occurred,
 “ with all the diligence I could, as a
 “ *present duty*, and endeavoured to repress
 “ every rising idea of its consequences;
 “ knowing most assuredly that there was a
 “ hand, which could easily overthrow every
 “ pursuit of this kind, and baffle every
 “ attempt, either to acquire fame or wealth.
 “ And with a great degree of gratitude, I
 “ look back to the gracious secret pre-
 “ server, that kept my mind more atten-
 “ tive to the discharge of my present
 “ anxious care for those I visited, than
 “ either to the profits or the credit result-
 “ ing from it: and I am sure, to be kept
 “ under such a circumscribed un aspiring
 “ temper of mind, doing every thing with
 “ diligence, humility, and as in the sight of
 “ the God of healing, frees the mind from
 “ much unavailing distress, and conse-
 “ quential disappointment*.”

There are many incidental circumstances which tend to introduce a physician into

* Letter to the Editor, dated Lea-Hall, anno 1773.

practice, independent of any intrinsic merit, and religious profession is not one of the least : whoever acquires the foremost reputation with the leaders of a sect, is by them naturally considered and proclaimed as the first of the medical profession at large ; but as there were two physicians of the same religious sentiments with Dr. FOTHERGILL, previously settled in the metropolis, his early reputation could not be deduced from his religion ; neither could family connexion operate in a stronger manner, because the residence of his relations was principally in the north of England. Whatever reputation is acquired, unconnected with literature or medical skill, is precarious at all times : if patients be not cured ; if success do not follow practice : a specious importance acquired or supported by partial or superficial pretences, being seldom permanent. In concerns of such magnitude, where health and life are at stake, partial attachments will vanish, and a conviction of superior sagacity and skill will at length predominate. Whether we consider Dr. FOTHERGILL's early ac-

E
quisition

quisition of reputation, or the future great increase of it, we cannot hesitate to ascribe it to his superior merit, and to that singular combination of vigorous powers of mind, and chaste integrity of manners, which for a series of years conciliated the affections, and claimed the unreserved confidence of the public.

*Sunt verba et voces, quibus hunc lenire
dolorem*

*Possis, et magnam morbi deponere par-
tem.* HOR*.

Highly flattering as his success must have been, at this early period, it bore very little proportion to that blaze of character which succeeded his “*Account of the Sore Throat attended with Ulcers*,” published in 1748, and since deservedly translated into almost every European language. Not long before this time, the disease which he now elucidated, in its general havock in

* The pow’r of words, and soothing sounds, appease
The raging pain, and lessen the disease.

London, had swept away indiscriminately, the hopes of some noble families, among whom were the two sons of the late Henry Pelham, brother to the late duke of Newcastle, and had hence excited very general alarm; the discovery therefore of a new and successful treatment of so formidable and fatal a disease, was critically fortunate for the public, as well as the author. Medical essays which promise improvements in the art of healing, are usually offered to the public in a state of imperfection, as long and repeated experiment is requisite to mature the offspring of a luxuriant genius; but this performance was exempted from the imbecility of an hasty birth, and the revolution it produced in the treatment of this disease, has obtained the sanction of the ablest physicians from that period to the present time, with less deviation perhaps than has attended the management of any other acute disorder.

As the alarm among persons of fashion long subsisted, the Doctor's reputation rapidly increased; for whoever astonishes the

public with new discoveries upon any popular disease, the reputation of sagacity in every other will be annexed. He was now introduced into the first families in the metropolis; and he was seldom ever employed, but his success made him sought for again.

Whoever deviates from the established routine of practice familiarized by long habit, will encounter opposition; and if truth is too brilliant to be eluded, that opposition takes the form of envy, armed on all sides with detraction; the discovery is anticipated by some previous description, or vague suggestion, which at the time gained no influence, nor deserved any attention. Such insinuations have been urged against the merits of the present performance, upon such a foundation indeed as does not deserve the trouble of refutation. The very general and almost invariable attribution of the discovery to Dr. FOTHERGILL, by his contemporaries, weighs with me much more forcibly, than the slight suggestion, that a physician had previously found out
the

the disease, its symptoms, and its cure, in writers, which are themselves obscure. Nobody could doubt the sagacity of Dr. *Letherland*; but beyond the obligation which Dr. FOTHERGILL has candidly acknowledged to him, I see no reason to detract from the merit of the latter, who uniformly, without reserve, always spoke of it as his own production, and without the consciousness of desert; no person that knew him, could be ignorant, that his modesty and his integrity would equally revolt at any unworthy plagiarism.

Had Dr. FOTHERGILL'S Account of the Sore Throat been merely a publication of doctrines previously known and adopted, such a plagiarism must have been notorious to every medical man in the city; and the performance which announced a supposed discovery, would have met with general contempt, instead of that eclat which it conferred upon the writer, and which suddenly swelled the current of his business, and consequently of his emolument: the first induced him to seek for some moments
of

of retirement, and the last enabled him to effect it, so far as a physician in extensive practice could command moments of leisure. The natural bias of the mind is most apt to shew itself in a state of independence, when unrestrained by exterior concerns ; in an active and multifarious genius, with which the Doctor was endowed, it would be difficult to ascertain his warmest excitements : individuals themselves are not always the most competent judges of their *cuique voluptas* ; actions constitute a more certain criterion, and by this standard we may conclude, that he did not make a false estimate of his own propensities ; for long before he was able to command that leisure which he never chose to allow himself, he observed, that “ chemistry and “ natural history would be his entertain- “ ments, were he wholly at leisure ; he “ could not, however, lose sight of the “ *cui bono*, in any researches : there is “ still room enough for discoveries ; many “ points that we believe, rather than “ know ; and some of these he could wish “ to determine by experiments*.”

* Letter to Dr. Cuming, dated London, anno 1744.

In those departments of science, where facts are brought to light by experiment, that leisure, that sedulous perseverance is demanded, which is incompatible with the sudden and unexpected avocations of a physician. In chemistry, where demonstration has superseded vague hypothesis, this studious attention is particularly requisite: however strong therefore, the Doctor's propensity to chemical researches might have been, the practice of medicine, and a judicious mode of prescribing, were not calculated to amplify its boundaries: this department of science was not then either very generally or successfully cultivated: *Hales*, and other philosophers, had indeed opened a wide field for investigation, and experiments have been since multiplied, more particularly relative to medicine, diet, and the animal œconomy. The *Air* which we breathe, as one homogeneous fluid, was now analyzed by new experiments in the North; but it was reserved for a *Priestley* to develop the *Aerial System*, to embody shades invisible to former ages, and place them in systematic light: but

but long before this period of astonishing aerial discoveries, Dr. FOTHERGILL had suggested experiments upon this really heterogeneous fluid : so early as 1744, he communicated to his friend Dr. *Cuming* *, not only his doubts respecting the real contents of the air, but the process of experiments he meant to institute. How far he pursued a design so worthy of an ingenious mind, I am uncertain ; but the state of his health, which he afterwards introduces as an obstacle to such pursuits, and the increase of various avocations, probably terminated these intended inquiries. The method he proposed to adopt, he thus describes : “ I
 “ have ordered some large glass bells to be
 “ made, but of a more conical figure, capable of holding several gallons : these in
 “ warm weather will be placed upon proper
 “ supports, the apex lowest, the broad
 “ open base above : the coldest water will be
 “ poured into them, and rendered still
 “ colder by sal ammoniac and sal communis ; on the outside, the moisture of the

* Letter dated London, anno 1744.

“ air will be condensed in large quantities,
 “ and afterwards subjected to chemical
 “ analyfis.”

Although a natural bias for experiment does not now appear in many instances of his chemical investigations, yet it obviously pervaded the whole composition of his prescriptions. It is well known, that the mere exterior surface of bodies is no criterion of their component parts, when analyzed by chemical processes : the most simple and innocent articles used in diet, consist of parts, which, developed and separated, become highly corrosive ; culinary salt, applied to so many useful and dietetic purposes, contains, as well as nitre and common sulphur, an acid, which is destructive to the hardest substances : other combinations may be formed, of bodies inoffensive and inert in their distinct states, which, on union, become noxious to animal life. Chemistry is hence absolutely requisite to form a physician, who must have daily reference to it in his practice : yet in this department of medicine, physicians are

not unfrequently deficient ; by which, compositions have been recommended, and from thence combinations have resulted, which the prescriber neither proposed nor suspected. This was not the fate of Dr. FOTHERGILL ; there was such a well-directed selection in all his compositions, as happily united simplicity, elegance, and utility ; and as the influence of his practice extended, his mode of prescription was proportionally imitated in the metropolis, and at length so generally adopted, that I may hazard the assertion, that he principally contributed to bring about a revolution, that substituted elegant simplicity in the place of multifarious and heterogeneous compound.

Materia Medica is that department of medicine most immediately allied to natural history, and to which he had devoted no little attention ; having collected a cabinet of *Materia Medica*, seldom, if ever, exceeded for its extent or selection. He had even encouraged the idea of delivering lectures upon this entertaining and useful branch

branch of medicine ; but an increase of employment, joined with a diffidence of his own abilities, which none but himself entertained, diverted him from this intention ; and his valuable collection was generously presented to the college of Edinburgh, for the use of the public professor of *Materia Medica* in that university. The handmaid to this branch of medicine is Botany, a department of natural history, which affords the greatest instruction and recreation with the least exercise of the mind : it is, therefore, well adapted to the pursuit of a medical man, whose moments of seclusion are rather snatched from time by watchful diligence, than enjoyed from actual leisure.

As a rational means of unbending his mind, and affording at the same time collateral advancement in the healing art, Botany acquired his patronage. On the *Surrey* side of the *Thames* he had noticed a spot of land, the situation of which sheltered it from the severity of the north wind, and in the soil of which vegetables grew luxuriantly ; its vicinity was convenient, and its

extent rendered its purchase easy, the proprietor being inclined to sell it : the price was stipulated, and one obstacle alone remained to make it his own ; it was let to a tenant at will, whose little family subsisted on its produce, and whose misery was inevitable, had he expelled him from this fruitful soil : the moment he was made acquainted with the circumstances of the family, he refused the offer, adding, “ that “ that could never afford gratification to “ him, which entailed misery on another ;” and when he relinquished this projected *Eden*, he made the family a present of the intended purchase-money, as I was informed by a relation of the tenant, and had it in part confirmed by the present proprietor.

Not far distant from this admired spot, he had afterwards a garden *, which he oc-

* That learned physician and ingenious botanist Dr. *William Watson*, informed me, that a beautiful *Acacia*, formerly planted by Dr. FOTHERGILL, and one of the last remains of his horticulture there, was ignorantly cut down about two years ago.

casionally visited; but he never furnished it with that profusion of exotics which he since collected from every quarter of the globe, and introduced into his garden at *Upton*, near *Stratford*. The whole estate was extensive; the seat was formerly called *Rooke-Hall*, from the name of the person who possessed it in 1566; and in 1666, it descended to Sir *Robert Smyth*, from whose family it was purchased, almost a century afterwards, by *Admiral Elliot*; and in *August* 1762 it became the property of Dr. FOTHERGILL*. The walls of the garden enclosed

* In the year 1762, when Dr. FOTHERGILL purchased of *Admiral Elliot* his estate at *Upton*, it consisted of the house, garden, and lands adjoining, to the amount of about thirty acres.

There were at that time growing in a part of the garden called the *Wilderness*, five large *Virginia Cedars*, not less in diameter than ten inches one with another, and which were probably some of the first of the kind planted in England.

A year or two after, Dr. FOTHERGILL purchased of *Peter Bigot*, Esq. a parcel of land, extending from the premises bought of *Admiral Elliot* to the *Ilford* road; and in the same year began the plantation along the said road.

enclosed about five acres of land ; a winding canal, in the figure of a crescent, nearly
formed

Not long after, viz. about the year 1764 or 5, he agreed with the proprietor of the large field called *Lady Margaret's Field*, to the east of this new purchase, to run a straight line between their respective grounds ; the old fence being no other than a broad sandy bank, and extremely crooked. When this was settled, and the fence made, a plantation was begun on that side, principally consisting of oaks of a very useful kind, the acorns of which were brought from the mountainous parts of *Portugal*, and the timber is thought to be second to none, in respect to durability.

Likewise some *Spanish* chefnuts, raised from the nuts, in a plantation upon the premises.

In the garden there was a fine bay hedge ; and in the Wilderness, one side of which is enclosed by this hedge, some very large laurels. Excepting these, a Larch, an Acacia, and the *Virginia* Cedars above mentioned, some large Abeiles, and the fruit-trees against the walls, there was not one foreign plant or shrub in the whole garden.

Whatever there is in the garden, or adjoining fields, of this kind, were planted by Dr. FOTHERGILL, soon after these grounds came into his possession : this circumstance I have mentioned for no other purpose, but that if this memorial should be preserved, it may be known to a succeeding generation, what progress the several shrubs and trees have made.

Some of the trees were not less than fifteen feet high when they were planted ; especially those on the west side of the field adjoining to the garden.

The

formed it into two divisions, and opened occasionally on the sight, through the branches of rare and exotic shrubs, that lined the walks on its banks. In the midst of winter, when the earth was covered with snow, Evergreens were clothed in full verdure : without exposure to the open air, a glass door from the mansion-house gave entrance into a suite of Hot and Green-House apartments of nearly 260 feet extent, containing upwards of 3,400 distinct species of exotics, whose foliage wore a perpetual verdure, and formed a beautiful and striking contrast to the shrivelled natives of colder regions : and in the open ground, with the returning summer, about 3,000 distinct species of plants and shrubs vied in verdure with the natives of *Asia* and *Africa*. It was in this spot that a perpetual spring was realized ; where the elegant proprietor some-

The large trees, among which are many rare oaks, were brought out of the first great nursery of *North American* trees in *England* at *Fulham*, belonging to — *Gray*, an eminent gardener ; and the first who, being assisted by *Peter Collinson*, *Mark Catesby*, and other curious collectors, supplied *England* with the vegetable treasures of *America*.

times

times retired for a few hours to contemplate the vegetable productions of the four quarters of the globe enclosed within his domain; where the sphere seemed transposed, and the Arctic Circle joined to the Equator*.

Et

* The President of the *Royal Society*, who has circumnavigated the globe, and is acquainted with most of the gardens in *Europe*, speaks of Dr. FOTHERGILL'S in the following manner.

“ At an expence seldom undertaken by an individual,
 “ and with an ardour that was visible in the whole of his
 “ conduct, he procured from all parts of the world a
 “ great number of the rarest plants, and protected them
 “ in the amplest buildings which this or any other coun-
 “ try has seen. He liberally proposed rewards to those,
 “ whose circumstances and situations in life gave them
 “ opportunities of bringing hither plants which might be
 “ ornamental, and probably useful to this country, or
 “ her colonies; and as liberally paid these rewards to all
 “ that served him. If the troubles of war had permitted,
 “ we should have had the Cortex Winteranus, &c. &c.
 “ introduced by his means into this country; and also
 “ the Bread-Fruit, Mangasteen, &c. into the *West-Indies*.
 “ For each of these, and many others, he had fixed
 “ a proper premium. In conjunction with the Earl of
 “ Tankerville, Dr. Pitcairn, and myself, he sent over a
 “ person to *Africa*, who is still employed upon the coast
 “ of that country, for the purpose of collecting plants
 “ and specimens.

“ Those

*Et nunc omnis ager, nunc omnis parturit
arbos,*

“ Those whose gratitude for restored health prompted
“ them to do what was acceptable to their benefactor,
“ were always informed by him that presents of rare
“ plants chiefly attracted his attention, and would be
“ more acceptable to him than the most generous fees.
“ How many unhappy men, enervated by the effects of
“ hot climates, where their connections had placed them,
“ found health on their return home at that cheap purchase!

“ What an infinite number of plants he obtained
“ by these means, the large collection of drawings he
“ left behind will amply testify; and that they were
“ equalled by nothing but royal munificence, at this time
“ largely bestowed upon the botanic gardens at *Kew*.
“ In my opinion, no other garden in *Europe*, royal,
“ or of a subject, had nearly so many scarce and valuable plants.

“ That science might not suffer a loss, when a plant
“ he had cultivated should die, he liberally paid the best
“ artist the country afforded to draw the new ones as
“ they came to perfection; and so numerous were they
“ at last, that he found it necessary to employ more
“ artists than one, in order to keep pace with their
“ increase. His garden was known all over *Europe*,
“ and foreigners of all ranks asked, when they came
“ hither, permission to see it; of which Dr. *Solander*
“ and myself are sufficient witnesses, from the many applications that have been made through us for that permission.” Sir *Joseph Banks*’s Note in Dr. *Thompson*’s Memoirs of Dr. FOTHERGILL, p. 37.

*Nunc frondent silvæ, nunc formosissimus
annus**.

VIRG. Bucol. Elog. iii. 57.

But in the midst of this enchanting combination of nature, he never lost sight of the *cui bono* : “ In these, as in every other
“ pursuit, he had always in view the en-
“ largement and elevation of his own heart;
“ having formed early habitudes of reli-
“ gious reference, from the display of di-
“ vine power and wisdom in the beauty,
“ the order, and the harmony of external
“ things, to the glory of their Almighty
“ Former.—From the influences of these
“ habitudes, his mind was always preserved
“ in a disengaged and independent state,
“ enjoying, but yet adoring†.”

In the superficial cultivation of many departments of natural history, expence is

* And fields and trees in fruitful stores are drest;
The lofty groves their verdant livery wear,
And in full beauty blooms the laughing year.

WARTON.

† Dr. *Hird's* Affectionate Tribute to the Memory
of Dr. FOTHERGILL, p. 13.

often

often lavished without benefit either to the collector or to the public, where the object is rather to gratify curiosity than to augment and diffuse knowledge: in the enjoyment of horticulture, the mind elevated to sublime contemplation, could not be restrained by the partial motive of a mere collector; and he that in his pursuits enlarges his speculation to the *cui bono*, will never want ample occasions of promoting general good, in the study of vegetable nature, which teems with so many blessings to mankind: whoever considers the importance of clothing, of household furniture, and of his daily bread, cannot but view it as one of the most useful, and consequently one of the most rational pursuits of an enlightened understanding. Of this we shall be convinced, if we reflect what benefit would accrue to mankind, could another dietetic article like the common potatoe be discovered! How great a benefactor to his fellow-creatures would that man prove, who should find out another grain like wheat, or pulse like the common pea! or an article of clothing and manufacture superior to

cotton or flax !—By such considerations was Dr. FOTHERGILL influenced ; and where he could not produce objects of equal importance, he exerted himself to accomplish others of less, yet of great public utility. What he effected, and what he contributed to do, would fill a volume, were a grateful biographer to enlarge upon them : he pointed out what would suit different soils, and formed a balance in the productions of the globe : from *America* he received various species of Catalpas, Kalmias, Magnolias, Firs, Oaks, Maples, and other valuable productions, which became denizens of his domain, some of them capable of being applied to the most useful purposes of timber ; and, in return he transported Green and Bohea Teas from his garden at *Upton*, to the southern part of that great continent, now rising into an independent empire : he endeavoured to improve the growth and quality of Coffee in the *West-India* islands ; the Bamboo cane (*Arundo Bambos*) calculated for various domestic uses, he procured from *China*, and purposed to transplant it to our islands situated within

within the tropics. The last time I was with him at *Upton*, I introduced Governor *Nugent*, who deservedly possessed the chief administration of *Tortola*, to whom he expressed the pleasure he should experience in being the means of furnishing the *Caribbæan Archipelago* with this useful *Asiatic*; the very shoots of which were marked for this design. The elegant vegetable is now in my possession; and I recollect with grateful pleasure, as often as I see it, the wish of its former proprietor, hoping, when the tumult of war shall have subsided, to carry his design into execution*.

The Nutmeg-Tree now flourishes in the *Isle of France*, and Clove-Trees have been transplanted from thence to *Cayenne*†. The true Cinnamon is a tree we have not hitherto been able to cultivate out of *Asia*, though the

* Since this was first written, I find that the Bamboo Cane has been transplanted to the *West-Indies*, where it thrives luxuriously, and has been already applied to many useful purposes.

† Dr. *Jussieu* obligingly informed me, by letter, of the circumstances respecting the Nutmeg and Clove-Trees.

Doctor used many endeavours to introduce it into our *West-India* colonies. The *Canella Cinnamomæa* I had from his garden; and the true Cinnamon-Tree would have arrived here in health, had not the alarm of an enemy's ship induced my friend to throw it overboard, with other articles designed as a present: the war, however, may ultimately extend the cultivation of these exotics, which, like the inhabitants of a seraglio, are cautiously excluded from the eye of strangers*.

Intent as he was to promote so many articles of commerce, manufacture, and convenience, he could not lose sight of

* I am indebted to Dr. *Vicq D'Azyr*, and Dr. *De Jussieu*, for information on this subject, that Cinnamon has been transplanted to the *French West-India* islands, and particularly to *Guadaloupe*, where it is greatly increased: (*Le Cannelier, transplanté depuis long temps dans les isles d'Amerique, et sur-tout à la Guadaloupe, s'y est très multiplié*). It grows likewise in *St. Vincent's*. See also art. 6, in the first volume of the *New Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm*; art. 6. by Mr. *Thunberg*, containing Observations on Cinnamon made in the Island of *Ceylon*.

those

those departments of natural history, which were more immediately connected with medicine, in order to ascertain the knowledge of what was already acquired, and to expand it by experiment where deficient. Though he was not the first who administered Hemlock internally, he was the first who accurately discriminated its virtues: by him we were made acquainted with the *Gummi rubrum astringens Gambiense*; and by his endeavours, and the ardour of minds similar to his own, we know that *Terra Japonica* is a vegetable extract*; and to him and Dr. *Russell* we are indebted for the flourishing of genuine Scammony† in our soil, as if indigenous thereto.

* Since Dr. FOTHERGILL's decease, I have received seeds of the true *Mimosa Japonica*, or tree producing *Terra Japonica*, and have distributed portions of them to several eminent botanists in different parts of *Europe*, as well as placed some in my hot-house at *Grove-Hill*. They were sent by Dr. *Kerr*, an ingenious physician resident at *Calcutta*.

† Dr. FOTHERGILL observes, that with no small trouble Dr. *Russell* succeeded in procuring us the seeds of the true Scammony. They were raised by my two botanical

thereto. He attempted to procure the tree which affords the *Peruvian Bark* *; and is said to have at length so far succeeded, as to have had one plant in his garden, but which I believe died with its possessor. This invaluable tree, which is so common in *Peru* and *Chili*, would doubtless thrive on the *North-American* continent, and in the larger *West-India* islands; it is perhaps already indigenous to the mountains of *Jamaica* †; and by successive endeavours it may

botanical friends, the late *Peter Collinson*, and the indefatigable *James Gordon*. Seeds were likewise sent over to the southern colonies of *America*, in hopes that in a similar soil and latitude, in some future time we might from thence have this valuable drug unadulterated. LIFE of Dr. RUSSELL, p. 15.

* He likewise offered a premium of one hundred pounds each to two captains of ships, for a plant in vegetation of the true *Winter's Bark* (*Winterana aromatica*).

† A friend of Dr. Clarke's, of *Jamaica* (*Alexander Roberts*) has found a species of the *Cinchona* with racemose flowers, very similar to those of the *Cinchona Caribæa* of *Jaquin* and *Linnæus*, and to the *Cinchona Jamaicensis* of Dr. *Wright*, described in the Philosophical

may hereafter be cultivated in the colonies of different *European* states ; we have seen in how short a period of time the true Rhubarb (*Rheum Palmatum*) has been naturalized to our soil, furnishing us at home with so important an acquisition to the *Materia Medica*. If we have not already cultivated it so successfully as to rival the foreign, it is at least nearly equal in medicinal qualities ; and future experiments may enable us to supply all our own consumption. Much depends upon the nature of the soil, and much upon the manner of drying the root after taking it up : to promote its growth, and the improvement of its quality, Dr. FOTHERGILL carefully exerted himself ; and his directions respecting the method of drying it, I shall give in his own words : “ There is one circumstance, “ relative to the drying of this root, that I “ have long thought of, and, if not already “ practised, would recommend to those “ who cultivate this article.

cal Transactions, vol. lxvii. p. 504. In the year 1781, a periodical publication, entitled the *Jamaica Magazine*, commenced ; and in the third, fourth, and fifth numbers, the *Jamaica Cinchona* is particularly described.

“ The large holes which we commonly
“ meet with in the *Turkey* Rhubarb, are
“ not the effect of accident, but design :
“ they are absolutely necessary ; for, by
“ opening a passage for the air to the cen-
“ tre of these pieces, they not only dry
“ sooner, but retain their colour, and per-
“ haps their medicinal virtues, the better.

“ After having washed, and cut the root
“ into large pieces, let a large hole be
“ bored through the centre with some in-
“ strument that makes a large excavation.
“ Let a rope of well-dried rushes, or straw,
“ as large as the cavity will receive, be in-
“ stantly drawn through it : this will pre-
“ vent the drying root from contracting,
“ whilst the porous rope admits the air to
“ pass through, and carry off the central
“ moisture. Several pieces may be hung
“ up together, taking care that they do
“ not come into contact ; and I should
“ think (though experience must deter-
“ mine this) that it would be best to take
“ up the roots, when the leaves early
“ in autumn die away, rather than in the
“ spring ;

“ spring; they will be less succulent in
 “ autumn, but their pieces will be more
 “ active and efficacious*.”

A man

* Letter to Dr. *Falconar*, of *Bath*. The public is, however, highly indebted to the amiable Dr. *Hope*, professor of botany in the college of *Edinburgh*; for his introduction of *Rhubarb* into these kingdoms. See *Philos. Transact.* art. xxxii. vol. lv. anno 1765. This distinguished professor informs me †, that he is of opinion, and his opinion on such a subject no one will doubt, that the *Rheum Palmatum* is the same with the *Russian*, which formerly was called the *Turkey Rhubarb*; and differs so much in its sensible qualities from the *China Rhubarb*, as to induce him to think with Sir *Joseph Banks* that they are different species. The farina of one species, operates upon the seeds of another, and thereby produces hybrid plants, which hitherto have not produced fertile seeds in the botanic gardens in *Scotland*, where the experiment has been made.

“ At first,” observes the professor, “ depending on the
 “ information received from books, we kept the root
 “ ten or twelve years in the ground, and thought that
 “ the longer we kept it so, the better quality would the
 “ *Rhubarb* possess; but experience has taught us, that
 “ the root should not remain above four years in the
 “ ground. The *Rhubarb* of this country is equal in
 “ quality to the best *Russian*. As there is now scarcely a
 “ garden in *Scotland* without a *Rhubarb* plant in it, the
 “ consumption of the foreign *Rhubarb* is considerably less,
 “ and annually a small quantity is sent to *London*.”

† Letter to the Editor, dated Nov. 18, 1782.

A man of science, confined by a local profession, like the practice of physic, which occupies

“ The late Earl of *Hopetoun* made some interesting discoveries respecting its cultivation, and the late Duke of *Athol* had very large plantations of it.

“ Sir *Alexander Dick* early received a gold medal from the Society of Arts in *London*, for producing “ the largest quantity of well-dried Rhubarb.”

For such as wish to cultivate this useful Exotic, the following directions, the result of experience, may be acceptable.

1. The seeds should be sown in *September* or *October*, and in pots or boxes, that, in the event of a severe winter, the young plants may be housed.

2. In the end of *March* or *April* they should be planted out in a deep, pretty free, and moderately dry soil, at two feet distance from one another.

N. B. Although the above soil is pointed out, they will grow in almost any soil.

3. The second year every second plant should be transplanted.

4. When the plant is four years old, or at most five, the root should be raised any time after the leaves are decayed, in *August*, *September*, or *October*, after two or three weeks of dry weather, and

5. The root entire hung up for three weeks, then

6. Each root should be cut into moderately large pieces, and hung up in a warm airy place; at first at a little distance from the heat, and as the root dries it should gradually have more heat.

N. B. If the cuticle or thin outer skin be taken off, the root will dry sooner and better.

1. All

occupies the most precious moments of time, may suggest more to others, than he can himself have an opportunity to effect; but, like the genial rays of the sun, his influence may extend to the most remote regions of the globe: and thus it was that Dr. FOTHERGILL promoted the investigation of Nature, and excited inquiries after her curious productions, as far as navigation and commerce had diffused arts and sciences. Men of more genius than fortune found in him a liberal patron; he contributed to support them while they explored distant regions, and amply rewarded their discoveries. As he studied most depart-

1. All the branches of the thickness of one's thumb should be carefully kept, as these are perhaps the best part of the root, and dry without trouble; which is by no means the case with the large roots, which in drying too often rot.

N. B. If you are desirous of drying large pieces, each of these should have cut through the centre a hole at least an inch in diameter.

2. If the Rhubarb is intended for private use, it may be cut into smaller pieces than if it be intended for the market, which will facilitate the curing.

3. The way of judging of good and well-cured Rhubarb is not only by the sight, but particularly by the smell.

ments of natural history, as he patronized its ingenious cultivators, he necessarily became possessed of a valuable collection of its rare objects : next to the Dutchess of *Portland*, he had the best cabinet of Shells in the kingdom * ; his collection of Ores and Minerals, dug out of different parts of the earth, were more distinguished for their rarity than their number. Of Reptiles and Animals, the gratitude of those he had patronized furnished him with a curious variety : in the same manner he became possessed of an elegant cabinet of Insects, which was greatly enlarged by the exertions of the ingenious *Smeathman*. His Corals, from whence *Ellis*, that indefatigable and microscopical naturalist, delineated his system, and created a new species of animal

* The versatility of Dr. FOTHERGILL's genius was remarkable:—Few were acquainted with his accurate knowledge of Conchology, for he made no ostentation of it, and yet *Da Costa* is indebted to him for many important remarks in his ingenious History of Shells, and for most of the notes with which it is enlarged and improved. The MS. notes, in Dr. FOTHERGILL's writing, were presented to me by *Da Costa* himself, with a modesty which reflects additional credit upon this eminent naturalist.

beings,

beings, was the foremost in *Europe*†. Those objects of nature, which were too bulky to transport, or too perishable to preserve, he ordered to be delineated by the pencil of artists, that he might give bread to a set of ingenious men, whom he wished to partake of his beneficence, whilst he rationally gratified his own taste, and enlarged the boundaries of the knowledge of nature : of such elegant specimens, whose value is difficult to estimate, he did not possess less than twelve hundred* ; and his collection of *English Heads*, which included those purchased of the late *John Nickolls*†, formed

† These and other curious subjects of natural history were purchased by the late Dr. *Hunter* for £1,500.

* These drawings were chiefly on vellum, by *Ehret, Taylor, Harris, Miller, and Ann Lee*, and were lately purchased for the Empress of *Russia* for £2,300.

† I am obliged to the ingenious antiquary *John, Nichols*, of the same name, though no relation of the deceased, for the following communication, from his *Anecdotes of Mr. Bowyer*. The tracts hinted at, are deposited in the Meeting in *Peter's Court*.

“ Mr. *John Nickolls*, F. R. and A. SS. a *Quaker*, in partnership with his father of the same name, a capital mealman at *Hertford*, and of *Trinity* parish, near *Queenhithe, London*. He was chosen F. A. S. Jan. 17, 1740 ;
and

formed a treasure in this particular department, which was perhaps inferior to none.

In the practice of Physic, it is as difficult to command leisure, as it is to govern the voice of Fame ; they both depend so much upon

and possessed the esteem of a respectable number of friends, who were deprived of him by a fever, at the age of thirty-four, Jan. 11, 1745. His remains were deposited in the burial-ground at *Bunhill-Fields* on the 16th. Mr. *Nickolls* published “ Original Letters and Papers of State, addressed to *Oliver Cromwell*, concerning the affairs of *Great-Britain*, from the year 1649 to 1658, found among the Political Collections of Mr. *John Milton* ; now first published from the Originals * ; 1743,” folio, inscribed to *Arthur Onslow*, Esq. He was the first † regular

* The originals of these Letters were long treasured up by *Milton* ; from whom they came into the possession of *Thomas Elwood*, a person who for many years was well acquainted with, and esteemed by *Milton*. From *Elwood* they came to *Joseph Wyeth*, citizen and merchant of *London* ; and from *Wyeth*’s widow, they were obtained by Mr. *Nickolls* ; after whose decease they were presented by his father to the Society of Antiquaries, as appears by their minutes.

† *Anthony Wood*, in his account of *E. Ashmole*, tells us, “ In his library I saw a large thick paper book, near a yard long, containing on every side of the leaf two, three, or more pictures or faces of eminent persons of *England*, and elsewhere, printed from copper cuts, pasted on them, which Mr. *Ashmole* had with great curiosity collected ; and I remember he has told me, that his mind was so eager to obtain all faces, that when he could not get a face by itself, he would buy the book, tear it out, paste it in his blank book, and write under it from whence
“ he

upon the opinion of the public, that the physician who expects to enjoy the former, or control the latter, will meet with daily disappointment : to acquire popular reputation, however, there must be success, and when acquired, under the same circumstances, it must be continually accumu-

lar collector of *English Heads* *. His noble collection of about 2,000 Heads, four volumes in folio, and six in quarto, neatly let-in (which furnished Mr. Ames with his valuable catalogue) came soon after his death into the library of Dr. FOTHERGILL, who purchased it for eighty guineas. Dr. FOTHERGILL purchased likewise a pretty large collection of Tracts which Mr. Nickolls had picked up in his pursuit of Heads, written by those of his own persuasion from their first appearance ; which the benevolent possessor intends to leave to the Meeting to which he at present belongs, in *Peter's Court, Westminster*. Besides these collections, he had several Views by great masters ; some of which fell also into the hands of Dr. FOTHERGILL. The catalogue of his library, in his own hand-writing (including 332 volumes of tracts in folio, 4to. and 8vo.) is in the possession of Mr. Tutet."

" he had taken it." An admirable portrait this of our modern portrait-collectors, who have sent back many a volume to the bookseller's shop stript of its graven honours. A most noted Collector told a person at *Cambridge*, who now and then sells a head, " That his own collection must needs " be large and good, as it rested on six points : 1. I buy ; 2. I borrow ; " 3. I beg ; 4. I exchange ; 5. I steal ; 6. I sell."—Mr. *Ashmole's* book was consumed with the rest of his library.

* See the virulent censure of Mr. *Rowe Mores* on this species of collectors : *Dissertation on English Founders*, p. 85.

lating. Sicknefs, which is always unwelcome, is not reſtricted to ſtated times ; and, in like manner, the leiſure of thoſe whoſe profeſſion it is to remove it, is uncertain ; hence it was, that Dr. FOTHERGILL never could command that reſpite from employment, which was requiſite to the relief of a mind ſo inceſſantly exerted. It may be obſerved in general, that the *future* is purchaſed by the *preſent* : “ It is not poſſible
 “ to ſecure diſtant or permanent happineſs,
 “ but by the forbearance of ſome immediate
 “ gratification.”

*Ad quæ non veniunt præſentis gaudia vitæ,
 Nec currunt pariter capta, et capienda vo-
 luptas*.* PRUD.

It is true, that a phyſician of independent fortune, determined to indulge in leiſure, may reſuſe the ſolicitations of his patients ; but if there be not a principle of honour, which impels him to the exerciſe of his art

* For baffled mortals ſtill attempt in vain,
 Preſent and future bliſs at once to gain.

F. LEWIS.

when

when requested, there is of humanity; and this ever was a sufficient impulse for the Doctor to sacrifice his own gratification to the relief and happiness of the sick, and his health to that of his patients: this led him, as often as his friends requested him to contract his practice, to reply, “ I cannot “ desert those who have once placed their “ lives in my hands; if I suffer, it is in “ my duty.”

But in the summer, there are much fewer residents in the metropolis, and in proportion still less sickness; prevented, therefore, as he was, by the mutual influence of his fame, and of his sensibility, from the enjoyment of any relaxation at *Upton* (whither, if he went, messages frequently intercepted him): he chose to retreat, for a few weeks, at this salubrious season of the year, to *Lea-Hall*, in *Cheshire*, a seat belonging to the *Leicester* family, about eighteen miles from *Warrington*, where two of his brothers resided in the year 1765, when he first sought this secluded spot. Two summers I spent with him

here, and I never spent any with more advantage. Men who have sedulously attended to the profits of trade, and who by industry and penury are enabled to retire on their fortunes, are more generally objects of compassion than of envy: if they live, it is to themselves; for want of early and rational cultivation of the mind, they have acquired one solitary sordid idea, and when they have placed themselves out of the enjoyment of it, life becomes a burthen, and retirement painful. It was not so with Dr. FOTHERGILL; he had numerous important duties to discharge, which incessant occupation in town had obliged him to defer: here he attempted to lessen the applications of the wealthy, who followed him for his advice, by refusing any gratuity; as they had it in their power to apply elsewhere: the poor he never relinquished; and in this place of retreat he devoted one day in the week, to attend at *Middlewich*, the next market-town, and gave his advice gratis to them without hesitation; when he sometimes favoured me in being the Amanuensis of his dictates, and made me

a witness

a witness of his philanthropy, as well as medical skill.

From his garden at *Upton*, he sent duplicates of plants to *Lea-Hall*, and there revived and extended Horticulture, where it had long lain dormant. Here he arranged his medical observations; for which his memory will be respected, as long as fact and rational experiment direct the professors of the healing art. From hence he maintained a communication with most parts of the civilized world: *Europeans*, whom the spirit of commerce had prompted to visit distant regions, conveyed to him, through various channels, the rare productions which occurred in the course of their travels. Few maritime persons of this country but had experienced his salutary assistance; our trans-atlantic brethren in particular, both on the American continent and in the islands, had either immediately, or by their friends, been acquainted with his medical character; for in cases that had proved rebellious to domestic aid, and which admitted of delay, no person was more frequently

quently consulted : and though in his language there was a precision, that contained much in few words, yet the multitude of applications with which he was surrounded admitted of no leisure, as his leisure, if any he had, was only the variation of useful employment. His domestic correspondence, or consultations within the kingdom, were alone sufficiently extensive for ordinary occupation ; but great as these avocations might be, and great they certainly were, they bore but a small proportion to the time and attention constantly devoted to the Society at large, of which he was a member, and which, though united in principle amongst each other, admitted of contingencies that demanded attention, influence, and abilities ; which few men combined in a more ample degree than Dr. FOTHERGILL did, or exerted them more ardently upon all interesting occasions : at the same time, he never neglected the tender offices of private friendship in the most enlarged and beneficent sense. Among his familiar correspondents, besides his own relations, Dr. *Percival of Manchester*, Dr. *Falconar*

Falconar of *Bath*, the late *Dr. Dobson* of *Bath*, *Dr. Haygarth* of *Chester*, *Dr. Ash* of *Birmingham*, *Dr. Anthony Fothergill* of *Bath*, *Dr. Priestley*, *Henry Zouch* of *Sandal*, *Dr. Johnstone* of *Worcester*, *Professor Hope* of *Edinburgh*, the late *Dr. Pemberton* of *Warrington*, enjoyed an honourable place; and I may add, that I consider it as one of the most pleasing circumstances of my life, that I have the privilege of introducing myself in this distinguished group. But among all his contemporaries, *Cuming*, the learned *Dr. Cuming* of *Dorchester*, shared his most unrestrained confidence: they had been associates at the college of *Edinburgh*, and intimate fellow-students, but parted with reluctance to occupy different stations in the kingdom; yet their frequent communication by writing was interrupted only by death: their correspondence was long maintained in easy and classical *Latin*, for which few were better qualified than these twin friends. The departed *Russell*, the accurate author of the *History of Aleppo*, was their early associate, and continued the chain

of

of friendship to the time of his decease ; it was then that Dr. FOTHERGILL, in the loss of *Russell*, wished to have his surviving associate nearer his bosom, and urged Dr. *Cuming* to remove to the metropolis, to enter into that scene of business, and amplitude of emolument, which his abilities must soon have commanded. After the warmest invitation from Dr. FOTHERGILL, *his Cuming** (for with this tender expression he addressed him) with a calm philosophy, that knew how to estimate the *summum bonum* of life, disinterestedly condescends to enjoy the comparatively private but tranquil scenes of life, in preference to hurry and pecuniary advantages ; a physician, who has been for a series of years conversant

* I am much indebted to this learned and amiable physician, for numerous anecdotes of the subject of my biography ; but with a modesty characteristic of true greatness of mind, he has suggested his remarks with a diffidence, which I believe no one has less occasion to plead : in one letter with which I was favoured, when speaking of his deceased FOTHERGILL, he classically enjoins me “ always keep in view that you are describing
“ the magnitude, density, distance, and orbit of a *primary planet* ; and if *my* name is to be introduced, let
“ me appear only as an *attendant satellite*.”

with

with the complaints and distresses of thousands of families, must necessarily have acquired many intimate ties.—And here I may particularly introduce a name, which, like Dr. FOTHERGILL's, had long been distinguished for virtue and ample generosity : *David Barclay*, a descendant of the great Apologist, was his bosom friend, to whom the Doctor intrusted his nearest concerns ; and he could not have selected any person more worthy of his confidence and friendship*.

It would be difficult to trace his pen through all the various subjects of utility on which it was employed, during the time, about two months, that he intended for his leisure in his annual retreat into *Cheshire* : he has to my knowledge written six hours† in the day successively, and he seldom wrote but for private information

* I am likewise particularly obliged to *David Barclay* for many very important communications respecting Dr. FOTHERGILL.

† Letter to the Editor, 14th September 1771.

or public instruction ; even his journies into the country, and his returns to the city, presented some striking observations to his inquisitive mind, that afforded improvement in agriculture, or useful reflections on life and manners. On his return from one of his latest excursions to *Lea-Hall*, by the way of *Buxton*, partly on account of his sister's health, his mind was here, as in every other situation, intent on promoting schemes of public good ; for he suggested the means of rendering those celebrated waters more beneficial, by pointing out improvements in their use, and that too with more ease and convenience to the patients *, which I believe are now carrying into execution.

With *North-America* his correspondence was extensive † ; his name was dear to the inhabitants ;

* Letter to the Editor, 4th October 1779.

† Among these may be enumerated *Benjamin Franklin* ; *Cadwallader Colden*, formerly governor of *New-York* ; *Dr. Chalmers*, of *Charles-Town* ; the *Pembertons*, of *Philadelphia* ; and the late Major *John Pickering*, of *Tortola* :

inhabitants ; his father had thrice traversed that continent in the service of religion ; and his brother *Samuel*, whose memory I deeply

Tortola : and now I mention him, I may be indulged to shed a tear to his memory. He was in early life brought up to a mechanical employment, but by strength of genius, and dint of self-exertion, he acquired a competent knowledge of *English*, and an extensive acquaintance with Mathematics ; by industry he became possessed of a large tract of uncultivated land, and by perseverance he covered it with Canes and Cotton, and gradually rose to be one of the wealthiest Planters in the *West-Indies*. He was about his fortieth year made Governor of the Island of *Tortola*, and held the rank of Major in the Insular-Militia : at length he publicly professed the religious principles of the *Quakers*, and relinquished all his civil and military honours and employments. He afterwards rarely attended the courts of judicature, unless he thought some poor person, some orphan or widow, was oppressed by some more powerful neighbour ; when he voluntarily attended, and publicly pleaded the cause of the weak, if he deemed them oppressed ; and his justice and weight were such as generally preponderated.

I frequently accompanied him to his plantations ; through which as he passed, his numerous negroes saluted him in a loud chorus or song, which they continued as long as he remained in sight. I was also a melancholy witness of their attachment to him after his death : he expired suddenly, and when few of his friends were near him ; I remember I had hold of his hand when this fatal period

deeply revere, had followed the pious example of his once venerable parent. Many families, from the fame of his medical skill, crossed the Atlantic, to place themselves under his care : by such oppor-

arrived ; but he had scarcely expired his last breath, before it was known to his slaves, and instantly about 500 of them furrounded his house, and insisted upon seeing their master : with this they commenced a dismal and mournfull yell, which was communicated from one plantation to another, till the whole island was in agitation, and crowds of negroes were accumulating around us. Distressed as I was with the loss of my relation and friend, I could not be insensible to the danger of a general insurrection ; or if they entered the house, which was constructed of wood, and mounted into his chamber, there was danger of its falling by their weight, and crushing us in its ruins. In this dilemma, I had resolution enough to secure the doors, and thereby prevent sudden intrusion ; after these precautions, I addressed them through a window, assuring them, that if they would enter the house in companies only of twelve at a time, they should all be admitted to see their deceased master, and that the same lenient treatment of them should still be continued : to this they assented, and in a few hours quiet was restored ; but it affected me to see with what silent, sullen, fixed melancholy, they departed from the remains of this venerable man : he died in 1768, aged about sixty years. His only surviving son, an amiable young gentleman, resides in England.

tunities

tunities he gratified his inquisitive mind, and acquired a minute acquaintance with the disposition of the inhabitants, and the qualities of their soil, which enabled him to suggest various improvements in Horticulture, *Rural Oeconomy*, *Agriculture*, and *Commerce*. With his friend *Peter Collinson*, he encouraged the cultivation of the *Vine*, with the introduction of such exotic vegetables as might be usefully transplanted to different regions of that extensive continent: he laboured, with others, for a series of years, and at length successfully, to abolish the *Slave-Trade* among his own brethren: no man valued personal Liberty with more commendable enthusiasm, and few exerted their influence more strenuously, in favour of the miserable captives of *Africa*. On the *North-American* continent, negro slavery will be gradually annihilated; but in the *West-India* islands, where there are few *Europeans*, and where the heat, which is intense, conduces to indolence, the traffic of rational beings is pursued with vigour, and will probably be continued till the pecuniary interests of *Europeans* can be diverted

verted into another channel. To effect this, he suggested the cultivation of the *Sugar-Cane* upon the continent of *Africa*, where it seems to have been indigenous, and thrives luxuriantly ; and that the natives should be employed as servants for hire, and not as slaves compelled to labour by the dread of torture. Such a plan, indeed, was formerly suggested by one of the most powerful Princes of *Guinea*. After the King of *Dahomè* had conquered the kingdom of *Whidah*, in the year 1727, he was so bent upon the execution of his plan, as to send *Bullfinch Lambe*, his prisoner, whom he had loaded with favours, to the court of *Great-Britain*, to engage its commerce and support. Upon this occasion, he presented his ambassador with 80 slaves, and 320 ounces of gold, to bear his expences, and to induce him to return ; but *Lambe*, after he had possession of so much wealth, settled in *Barbadoes*, and never reached *Europe*, or further interested himself in the project of his generous benefactor. The richness of the soil, the abundance of provisions, the convenience of carriage, and

many

many other considerations, strongly support the opinion of cultivating the Cane on the *African* continent *.

* On a subject so very interesting, let it not be thought ostentatious, if I take the liberty of communicating the sentiments I could not avoid feeling in my own case, and the conduct which, as their natural and necessary consequence, they no less irresistibly produced. It is an instance given, not to support a claim to peculiar merit, but merely to shew what every one, whose heart is not hardened by acts of oppression, nor actuated by the love of money, must be disposed to feel, think, and act, in a similar situation.

The repeated proofs of fidelity and love which I received from my own people, gave me at length so settled a confidence in their integrity, that, without the least apprehension of danger, I have frequently found that I had left not only my liberty, but my life, entirely at their disposal. The beneficence of the powerful, and the gratitude of the dependant, form an union of interests that never fails to heighten mutual regard: my own happiness became at length so closely connected with the happiness of my negroes, that I could no longer withhold from them the natural privilege of freedom, which Heaven had conferred upon me; I therefore delivered them from bondage, and thus restored them to the character of beings, into whom the Author of Nature, and Giver of all Good, has breathed the breath of life. See *Benezet's Historical Account of Guinea, &c. Philadelphia, 1771. London, 1772. 12mo. Sharp's Limitation of Slavery. Sparrman's Voyage, Vol. II. p. 340. Coxe's Travels into Poland, Vol. I. p. 113.*

A man

A man actuated by the mild influences of humanity, could not be insensible to the near and social endearments of friendship: a physician, in particular, whose time and powers are devoted to restoring health to his fellow-creatures, to removing grief and misery, and substituting comfort and happiness, must naturally have his mind awakened to the most tender sensibilities, and animated with those joys annexed by Nature to the power of doing good: his regard to his friends is expressed with officious and watchful care, and is returned with those lenient endearments which constitute unaffected friendship, and those felicities of life which remove or soften its pains.

“ A physician,” says Dr. *Gregory* (who might be supposed to have drawn his picture from Dr. FOTHERGILL, had not his own afforded the same excellent model) “ has numberless opportunities of giving that relief to distress, not to be purchased by the wealth of *India*. But besides the good which a physician has it often in his power to do, in consequence of skill in his profession,

profession, there are many occasions that call for his assistance as a man, as one who feels for the misfortunes of his fellow-creatures. In this respect he has many opportunities of displaying patience, good-nature, generosity, compassion, and all the gentle virtues that do honour to human nature."

" I come now to mention the moral qualities peculiarly required in the character of a physician. The chief of these is, humanity ; that sensibility of heart, which makes us feel for the distresses of our fellow-creatures, and which of consequence incites us in the most powerful manner to relieve them. Sympathy produces an anxious attention to a thousand little circumstances that may tend to relieve the patient ; an attention which money can never purchase : hence the inexpressible comfort of having a *friend* for a *physician*. Sympathy naturally engages the affection and confidence of a patient, which in many cases are of the utmost consequence to his recovery. If the physician possesses

L. gentleness

gentleness of manners, and a compassionate heart, and what Shakespear so emphatically calls “ *the milk of human kindness,*” the patient feels his approach like that of a guardian angel ministering to his relief ; while every visit of a physician who is unfeeling, and rough in his manners, makes his heart sink within him, as at the presence of one who comes to pronounce his doom*.”

It is an adage, that friendship exists among the virtuous only : if virtue confer a presumptive claim to friendship, Dr. FOTHERGILL’S title to it could not be controverted, and at this altar alone he lighted the sacred *torch*. “ Sovereign benevolence,” he observed†, “ is more widely extended than the particular attachment, however reciprocal, that we call friendship. That the beloved disciple, that *Lazarus*, that others shared a peculiar re-

* Lectures on the Duties and Qualifications of a Physician, p. 8, 9. 19, 20.

† Letter to Dr. Percival.

“ gard from the Saviour of mankind, is evi-
 “ dent; but still the principle was extended
 “ much further: ‘ *Ye are my friends, if ye*
 “ *do the will of him that sent me.*’ This
 “ is the friendship, it is most evident,
 “ that the Gospel recommends—Loving
 “ the Great Creator above all things, our
 “ fellow-creatures for his sake, and in pecu-
 “ liar situations, individuals for his and
 “ their own.—The friendships of *Tully*
 “ are beneath this kind of friendship;
 “ they did honour to human nature, and
 “ to its Author in a certain degree: a
 “ wider sphere was unknown to them, and
 “ as the attachments they formed were on
 “ the best foundations they knew, more
 “ was not to be expected. The Gospel
 “ amities are unlimited, they flow to all,
 “ in proportion to that dilated benevolence
 “ which the Gospel only divulges. It
 “ states, that we are friends to one another,
 “ friends to the great Author of our dearest
 “ knowledge, in proportion as our lives
 “ are devoted to that great Will which
 “ constitutes the noblest part of the Chris-
 “ tian character.

A mind actuated by these sentiments of amity, could not be deficient in actions of beneficence. Introduced by his profession to scenes which equally excite sympathy, and demand succour, being ever accessible to distress. To the inferior clergy Dr. *Hird* gives the following example of his generous philanthropy, whom he considered as more particularly the objects of his liberality and attention : “ Being brought up in that line of education, which, in the opinion of the world, precludes bodily labour, and to which the idea of the gentleman is annexed, without a competency to support the character ; to many of these I am an evidence he was a kind friend and a private benefactor ; not only by his advice in personal distress, but by his purse on severely trying occasions.—Nay, so cordial was his humanity towards these, that, on a friend’s hinting to him, whilst he was in the country, that his favours were not marked by propriety of distinction (the gentleman from whom he had refused his fee being placed in high rank in the church, with an independent fortune) he returned a
ready

ready explanation of his principle of action: “ I had rather,” said the Doctor, “ return
 “ the fee of a gentleman with whose rank
 “ I am not perfectly acquainted, than run
 “ the risk of taking it from a man who
 “ ought perhaps to be the object of my
 “ bounty.” Such was the noble manner
 of this most excellent man’s way of thinking.

“ The humane reader will feel the finest springs of his affections moved by the following anecdotes, given me by a clergyman of high rank, who reveres the memory of Dr. FOTHERGILL, and places his obligations to him, in a very trying season, near to his heart. A friend of his, a man of a worthy character, who has at this time an income of about one hundred pounds a year, church preferment, was, in the early part of his life, seated in *London* upon a curacy of fifty pounds per annum, with a wife and a numerous family.—An epidemical disease, which was at that time prevalent, seized upon his wife, and five of his children: in this scene of distress his heart was instantly

stantly turned to the Doctor; but dared not apply for his assistance, from a consciousness of his inability to reward him for his attendance. A friend, who knew his situation, kindly offered to accompany him to the Doctor's, and give him his fee: they took advantage of his hour of audience, and after a description of the several cases, the fee was offered, and refused; but a note was taken of his place of residence. The Doctor called assiduously the next, and every succeeding day, till his attendance was no longer necessary. The curate, anxious to return some grateful mark of the sense he entertained of his services, strained every nerve to accomplish it; but his astonishment was not to be described, when, instead of receiving the money he offered, with apologies for his situation, the Doctor put ten guineas into his hand, desiring him to apply to him without diffidence in future difficulties.

“ Although, amidst the diffusion of his favours, he too frequently met with ungrateful returns, yet he could never allow
instances

instances of this sort to check the ardour of his mind in doing all the good he could to others : and even to those who returned ingratitude for kindness, his charity continued still patient, hoping all things. It was his common expression, when he found his favours misapplied, or himself imposed upon, “ I had much rather that my favours should fall upon many undeserving objects, than that one truly deserving should escape my notice*.”

The contest with *America*, by involving families in distress, equally unexpected and unavoidable, not only tended to promote diseases, the offspring of anxiety, but likewise precluded the means of purchasing that medical advice, which was once attainable and requested. The Doctor, whose sympathetic mind was actively alive to human woe, sensible that confidence in the practitioner contributes much to the recovery of the sick, frequently introduced

* Affectionate Tribute, pages 7, 8, and 9—with some little variation in the language.

himself into such families whom he had attended in days of prosperity ; at the same time apologizing for his voluntary intrusion in a manner the least likely to hurt the feelings of oppressed dignity : and on their recovering health, when he gave the last visit, it was not unusual with him under the appearance of feeling the pulse, to slip into the hand of the patient a sum of money, or a Bank note ; in one instance I have heard of, it amounted to £150.

That charity which is not influenced by the motive of human praise, and that beneficence which administers present relief to obviate present misery, wait not for those occasions only, where their consequences are most extensive, lest subordinate afflictions, which are the most frequent, should remain neglected and unsuccoured. Of little acts of charity, which he daily exercised, volumes might be transcribed ; for death, which increases our veneration for the good, and disposes the living to warmer expressions of gratitude, has brought me acquainted with innumerable instances of his generosity.

generosity. There exists more misery than affluence, and more affluence than liberality; and wherever the latter unite, there will be expectation: situated, therefore, as he was, in a conspicuous point of view, where his character for liberality was universally known, various species of importunity augmented the channels through which his bounty flowed.

There is a condition of people, whose distresses are much greater than are generally imagined, and whose patience under suffering makes them less conspicuous, though no less deserving of protection, than the importunate poor. They have known better days, and consequently feel more poignantly the reverse of their condition; their reluctance in complaining, often reduces them very low in health and spirits before they are discovered, and thereby disease is accumulated upon want. From the retreats of anxiety flow an infinitude of bodily distresses; of this he was tenderly sensible; and while this modest indigence interested his sympathy, it had access to his bounty,

in such a manner as was most likely to blunt the acuteness of distress; for obligations are felt more gratefully from the manner in which they are conferred, than from their magnitude. To preclude the necessity of acknowledgment in such minds, he endeavoured to suggest some motive for his bounty, that might afford the receiver the merit of a claimant, and the liberal donor that of discharging a debt: after prescribing for such individuals, he remembered that there is such a complaint as hunger, in the catalogue of human miseries, and not unfrequently conferred his bounty under the pretence of defraying the expence of their medicines; for that charity which is not exercised to make usury of fame, silently diffuses the oil of gladness over the troubled commotions of the heart, and enjoys the private retreat of unmixed happiness.

One instance, among numbers, I am urged to communicate here, as death now equally precludes the power of bestowing, and the gratitude of acknowledging, future bounties :

bounties : Captain *Carver* is a name known in the annals of misery, to which he was reduced by long-continued want ; disease, its natural consequence, gave him access to Dr. FOTHERGILL ; and I am informed by his widow, that as often as he applied for medical relief, the Doctor as often accompanied his prescription with a liberal donation. But Captain *Carver* was not an importunate solicitor ; the mind not hardened by familiarity of refusal, or that hath not acquired, by frequent struggles, the art of suppressing its emotions, possesses that diffidence which is the inseparable associate of worth. Between diffidence and want, many were the struggles of Captain *Carver*, but, overcome at length by repeated acts of the Doctor's generosity, a jealous suspicion of becoming troublesome to his benefactor, determined him to prefer that want, from the deprivation of the necessities of life, which put it out of the power of his choice ; for death soon triumphs over famine.—What a conflict of sullen greatness does this tragedy exhibit ! When his fate was communicated to the Doctor, how tender

was his expression ! “ If I had known his
“ distress, he should not thus have died * ! ”

He that is cordially disposed to do good,

* The king has since graciously condescended to allow the widow *Carver* an annuity. The unfortunate husband was only known to me on his death-bed. In the early stages of his disease he was able to wait upon Dr. FOTHERGILL ; but in the progress of it, being confined to his bed, the Doctor requested me to visit the Captain at his lodgings ; and my first interview was within three days of his decease. It was after his funeral that I felt myself more immediately interested in the succour of the widow and orphans. As the Captain died penniless, he was buried, to avoid expence, in the poor’s ground, a part of the church-yard usually appropriated to the abject poor. When I reflected upon the utility of his Travels, I considered him as a public loss, and his offspring as the children of the public ; and I presented the widow with a few pounds, to clothe and feed herself and children ; but the money, thus designed to satisfy her hunger, she employed otherwise ; she had the corpse of her husband taken out of the poor’s ground, and buried in ground containing the ashes of higher company, and over it she raised a decent monument to his memory. His Travels, however, will prove a more durable monument than stone ; and, though the dust with which we are mixed avails not to the living or to the dead, yet I was sensibly touched with this instance of posthumous affection, and have since endeavoured to mitigate the miseries of a mind endowed with such tender sensibilities.

will

will not find his beneficence disappointed for want of occasions; for distress appears in a thousand shapes, and affords the affluent as many opportunities of augmenting their own happiness, as by enlarging that of others. Were there no misery in the world, there would be few occasions for the exercise of those generous virtues, which beget gratitude and thankfulness on one hand, and the tender emotions of sympathy and humanity on the other. Conscious as we are, that no one is exempt from the painful vicissitudes of life, and that the blessed to-day may to-morrow experience a bitter reverse, the distressed are ever objects of commiseration, and should raise in our hearts that kind of compassion, and obtain that aid from us, which we should look for, were such afflictions suffered to overtake us.

So Dr. FOTHERGILL reflected, and so he consistently acted; for he was almost incessantly suggesting methods of mitigating, not only abject poverty, but likewise that species of poignant sensibility which the
reverse

reverse of better days naturally inflicts. Feelings of this nature presented to him a plan for relieving the distresses of the lower classes of the people, by lessening the price of provisions. Where the profit of labour is barely adequate to the expence of subsistence, from unfavourable seasons, or from whatever cause a temporary scarcity of the necessaries of life may originate, is a severity peculiarly felt by the poor: when land fails of its usual product in any one general article of diet, every other being demanded in greater proportion, the price of the whole will be enhanced. Such a national scarcity can only be obviated by importation from another country, at the expence of money or some other equivalent value, and hence constitutes only a partial remedy; but could a substitute for national scarcity be found, which is not the product of *land*, such would afford the most effectual means of obviating impending distress; and this the *ocean* affords, which barter its produce for labour alone. If the inhabitants of a country, surrounded by sea abounding with fish, were accustomed to

live

live upon this food one day in the week, it is evident that the same land would support one seventh more inhabitants, without enhancing the necessaries of diet. If our fisheries contributed to the subsistence of the inhabitants of *Spain, Portugal, and Italy*, whilst our own poor were at times wanting bread, was it not true policy to encourage the more general use of this cheap and dietetic article?

At the approach of the severe winter of 1767, Dr. FOTHERGILL proposed a scheme, and liberally contributed to raise a fund for insuring its success, to purchase Fish at a wholesale cheap price, and to dispose of them at a small loss, till the whole subscription was expended, for the benefit of the poor and middle ranks of house-keepers. The Society, who supported this scheme, which was continued to the year 1770, in the same manner purchased Potatoes in *Lancashire*, or other cheap markets, and conveyed them by water to the metropolis, where there is more poverty, as well as more wealth, than in any other part of the kingdom; and, to countenance this diet,

he

he purchased from the warehouses, opened for the sale of these articles, the provisions of his own table, once at least a week. If this conduct deserve to be recorded as an example for posterity, I shall be approved for introducing likewise the respectable names of *David Barclay, John Barclay, Daniel Mildred, Samuel Hoare, Osgood Hanbury, Capel Hanbury, John Harman, John Strettel, Isaac Walker, Zachary Cockfield, Thomas Corbyn, and William Archer*, as examples of beneficence, co-operating in this patriotic and humane undertaking.

To break a monopoly which had highly enhanced the price of fresh fish in all the markets about *London*, he first suggested the scheme of bringing fish by land-carriage; and though it did not succeed in every respect, it tended to destroy a supposed combination, which has never since arisen to the same alarming extent; and may probably long be remembered, as a project which, though now suspended, may be renewed at a future time, should the same complaint again occur.

To

To render Bread much cheaper to the poor, though equally wholesome with the best wheaten, Dr. FOTHERGILL proposed a method of making it with one part of potatoes, and three parts of household flour; and to encourage its use, he caused proper directions to be distributed among the Bakers and others in the city. I have often ate this bread, and even were the price equal, I should prefer it to that made of the finest flour.

A wholesome bread may likewise be made, by mixing the fine flour of Indian corn with that of wheat, in equal proportions; which, if rightly managed, the colour will be about the same as the standard wheaten bread, and, before the present contest with *America*, might have been sold about two-pence in the quartern loaf cheaper than the fine wheaten, when that may be at eight-pence per quartern; and, should days of peace return, will doubtless be again equally cheap.

No substance, used as aliment, has been
N more

more fully and satisfactorily proved to be nutritious than this corn, which was once imported hither in considerable quantities from *North-America*, where it forms a large share of the diet of both the rich and poor : it is light and easy of digestion, and at the same time affording much nourishment, as those most addicted to it endure exercise and labour with superior ease ; and it has likewise been particularly remarked, that horses fed with it will travel further, and bear the fatigues of a long journey much better, than when fed with any other food whatever. It was formerly much used about *London* for the feeding of hogs, and it has rendered their flesh whiter, sweeter, and better flavoured, than when fed with any thing else hitherto used : and for black cattle, deer, and poultry, there is no food superior to this grain.

The people of *North-America* dress the flour into various forms, for which it is as well calculated as wheat ; in the *West-Indies* it constitutes a large share of the food of the negroes, who, perhaps, undergo

dergo as much hardship and labour as most of the sons of men.

The flour of this corn possesses, to most palates, an agreeable sweet flavour; so that some persons, who have accustomed themselves to eat this bread, find a difficulty in returning to the use of any other. Great care is requisite in grinding the corn, as a part of the interior edge of the grain is composed of a ligneous spongy substance, the middle of which is of a dark brown colour, and of a bitter taste, which, if ground into the flour, produces a disagreeable taste; to avoid which, the millstones should be set so wide as but just to burst the thick or farinaceous part of the grain, which should be passed through a sieve, in order to separate the above-mentioned bitterish substance; the grain should then be ground with the stones set to render it sufficiently fine: by this precaution the flour is white as that of the finest wheat, and full as pleasant to eat; it possesses, like potatoes, the quality of preserving the bread, made from a mixture of it, in a moist state for many

N 2
days,

days, which, at least in warm weather, is no inconsiderable advantage*.

Though numerous rivulets, when united, constitute a considerable current; yet, various as were the channels of the Doctor's bounty in the minor departments of beneficence, they formed but a small proportion of the ample income which flowed from the extensive exercise of his profession. Those acts of beneficence, where, like the oak which germinates from an acorn, great effects arise from small causes, may be classed under minor departments, when referred to him, whose liberality flowed into so many wide and distant channels: seldom was any useful subscription set on foot, either in this kingdom or its dependencies, without his name standing foremost in the list, as many of the schools

* Whilst I am considering the means of relieving the poor by a healthy substitute for wheaten bread, I cannot but recommend the perusal of a performance lately published, entitled, *Observations on such nutritive Vegetables as may be substituted in the Place of ordinary Food. Extracted from the French of M. Parmentier*, 8vo. *Murray, London, 1783.*

at home and abroad can gratefully evidence : in public calamities, as in instances of private distress, but in a more enlarged manner, the sympathy of his heart expanded the bounty of his purse—

His bosom Truth's fair palace ; and his arms
Benevolent, the harbour of mankind !

BROOKE'S *Gust. Vasa.*

A man who devoted his labour and fortune to public good, without ostentation, may have raised many monuments of public benefit, that are too remote to be clearly recollected, or too recent to be fully ascertained. In the late war, when the success of our arms had filled the prisons with captives, and reduced our enemies to a state too abject to administer support adequate to the misery of their own people, a national subscription was instituted, to feed and clothe these unfortunate victims of war ; for a brave people, like the *Persian Cyrus*, deemed those no longer enemies whom they had vanquished*. In this noble undertaking

* Ils sont hommes comme nous, ils ne sont plus ennemis, sitôt qu'ils sont vaincus.

taking Dr. FOTHERGILL bore a considerable share : the Society of *Quakers*, who scarcely constitute the two hundredth part of the nation, raised above one fourth of the whole subscription ; towards which he was an ample contributor, and was appointed one of the Committee* for conducting and appropriating this national bounty ; of which no instance of equal humanity was ever recorded in the heroic ages of *Greece* or *Rome*†.

The

Norborn Berkeley, afterwards Lord *Botetourt*, then colonel of the militia, who guarded the *French* prisoners at *Winchester*, was struck with their distress, and was the first who proposed a subscription for their relief.

* The benevolent *Thomas Corbyn*, with the late *Richard How*, were likewise of this Committee.

† Dr. *Johnson*, in his noble preface to the Report of the above Committee, justly remarks, that “ new scenes of misery make new impressions ; and much of the charity which produced these donations, may be supposed to have been generated by a species of calamity never known amongst us before. Some imagine that the laws have provided all necessary relief in common cases, and remit the poor to the care of the public ; some have been deceived by fictitious misery, and are afraid of encourag-

ing

The late unnatural war in *America* *
afforded a fresh example of popular misery,

* Whilst the first edition was in the press, the Preliminary Articles of Peace were signed, on the 20th of Jan. 1783.

ging imposture ; many have observed want to be the effect of vice, and consider casual alms-givers as patrons of idleness. But all these difficulties vanish in the present case : we know that for the prisoners of war there is no legal provision ; we see their distresses, and are certain of its cause ; we know that they are poor and naked, and poor and naked without a crime.

“ But it is not necessary to make any concessions. The opponents of this charity must allow it to be good, and will not easily prove it not to be the best. That charity is best, of which the consequences are most extensive : the relief of enemies has a tendency to unite mankind in fraternal affection ; to soften the acrimony of adverse nations, and dispose them to peace and amity : in the mean time, it alleviates captivity, and takes away something from the miseries of war. The rage of war, however mitigated, will always fill the world with calamity and horror : let it not then be unnecessarily extended ; let animosity and hostility cease together ; and no man be longer deemed an enemy, than while his sword is drawn against us.

“ The effects of these contributions may, perhaps, reach still further. Truth is best supported by virtue : we may hope from those who feel or who see our charity, that they shall no longer detest as heresy that religion, which makes its professors the followers of HIM, who has commanded us to *do good to them that hate us.*”

and

and another instance of Dr. FOTHERGILL'S beneficence ; for his bounty flowed copiously into the channels of misery, wherever it existed. As the contention in *America* was embittered by reciprocal injuries, each contending party was more and more stimulated to acts of violence, till reiterated distresses had levelled most ranks of people into penury and want. To obviate these ravages of intestine war, a subscription was opened among the *Quakers* of *Europe*, for the service of their fellow-subjects beyond the Atlantic. If Dr. FOTHERGILL did not first propose, he was certainly one of the most early and liberal advocates for this generous subscription. Its application was not confined to any sect ; it was extended to the miserable of every denomination ; for, under affliction, we ought to be brethren by sympathy. But to describe the Doctor in every act of his beneficence, would constitute an epitome of human woe counteracted by godlike generosity.

I hope it will not be deemed a partial attachment to *Sect*, should I indulge myself
in

in a digression not immediately connected with the object of my narrative. Considering the general philanthropy of a Society of which Dr. FOTHERGILL was a distinguished member, it may seem strange that it should have obtained the obloquy and invidious reflections of persons of all denominations, when a little inquiry would have afforded sufficient reasons for adopting more favourable sentiments. A cause, and one of the most difficult to eradicate, is the impressions imbibed in early life, prejudicial to this Society. No book, perhaps, is at present more generally read in schools than *Guthrie's Geographical Grammar*; and, so far as it respects the religious principles of the *Quakers*, it is composed of errors and misrepresentations, with which the writer would have been ashamed to have charged any of its members: but early impressions being most permanent, and these prejudices being interwoven in school education, become familiar to youth, and grow up with them, and consequently possessing no novelty, they excite no future investigation; and thus opinions, founded

upon misrepresentation, are admitted as habitual and established truths. That which differs from the general habitude of mankind, will not acquire general applause : it is not flattering to self-love to admit, much less to approve, opinions which controvert its own ; and those of the *Quakers* consist of such as are calculated to obtain popular obloquy. The whole tenor of their principles being contrary to *War*, they could not therefore raise the esteem of the military ; as they have no *Priests*, and consider the exercise of the Gospel as free, they could not conciliate the affections of the *Clergy* ; in like manner, as they discourage going to *Law*, they could not expect the favour of the professors of law : and thus the principal sources, upon which the public opinion must depend, are naturally adverse to a Society, whose principles counteract both their views and emoluments.

Whoever is bold enough to dissent from popular opinion, is reprobated as obstinate or fanatic by popular decision ; but, however sudden passion may controvert
a general.

a general position, mankind are seldom long and deliberately obstinate against their private interest. But the system on which I am adverting, admitting not of Oaths, it debarred itself from all emoluments under government; as it repressed pomp and ceremonious address, it could neither court the great nor flatter the gay. From such a system of self-denial the Society could never be numerous; and, as naturally might be imagined, would rather have excited pity than persecution: but, unenviable as their religious opinions might appear, so natural is it for the strong to oppress the weak, that they were compelled to seal those opinions with their blood. Time, however, which is the measure of actions, has placed men and opinions in new points of view:

Opinionum commenta delet dies, naturæ judicia confirmat.* CIC.

Persecution drove the *Quakers* to *America*, where they founded a government unknown in modern times; where the world beheld

* Time overthrows the illusions of opinion, but establishes the decisions of nature.

a people in power, the only people recorded in history, who never exercised that power to persecute the weak !

What is familiar and near us, excites little scrutiny or investigation ; but the time may come, when a wise legislator may descend to inquire, by what medium a whole Society, in both the Old and New World, is made to think and act with uniformity for upwards of a century ! By what polity, without emolument from government, they have become the only people on earth free from poverty ! By what œconomy they have thus prevented beggary and want among any of their members, whilst the nation groans under taxes for the poor ! Then perhaps their fanaticism may not appear to the public in a worse point of view than has been exhibited by a modern writer on the continent, whose sentiments are as follow. After giving a view of their religious principles, he says, “ * Après cela qu'on
 “ range tant qu'on voudra les *Quakers*
 “ parmi

* Let those, who please, consider the *Quakers* as fanatics ; they are such fanatics as always merit esteem.
 I think

“ parmi les fanatiques ; ce sont toujours
 “ des fanatiques bien estimables. Je ne
 “ puis m’empêcher de déclarer, que je
 “ les estime un peuple vraiment grand,
 “ vertueux, plein d’industrie, d’intelligence,
 “ et de sagesse. Ce sont des gens animés
 “ des principes les plus étendus de benefi-
 “ cence, qu’il y ait jamais eu sur la terre.
 “ Leur charité se porte sur toute la race
 “ du genre humain, ne refusant à personne
 “ les miséricordes des dieux. Ils recon-
 “ noissent publiquement que la liberté uni-
 “ verselle est due à tout le monde. Ils
 “ condamnent les impôts, et néanmoins

I think myself obliged to declare, that I esteem them to be a great, industrious, modest, intelligent, and virtuous people, and to be animated with the most beneficent principles of any sect, which ever yet appeared in the world. They have a comprehensive charity to the whole race of mankind, and deny the mercies of God to none. They publicly aver, that an universal liberty is due to all ; are against impositions of every kind, yet patiently submit to many themselves ; and perhaps are the only party amongst men, whose practices, as a body, correspond with their principles. I am not ashamed to own, that I have with great pleasure read over Mr. *Barclay's* Apology for *Quakerism*, and do really think it to be, the most masterly, charitable, and reasonable system that I have ever seen.

“ ils

“ ils les payent, et s’y foumettent fans
 “ murmure. Enfin, c’est peut-être le seul
 “ parti chez les Chrétiens, dont la pratique
 “ du corps entier reponde constamment à
 “ ses principes. Je n’ai point de honte
 “ d’avouer que j’ai lu et relu avec un plai-
 “ sir singulier l’Apologie du *Quakérisme*
 “ par *Robert Barclay*; il m’a convaincu que
 “ c’est, tout calculé, le systême le plus raison-
 “ able et le plus parfait qu’on ait encore ima-
 “ giné.” *Encyclopedie Fr. T. 13. p. 648.**

He that so ardently and successfully
 exerted his abilities and fortune in pro-
 moting private and public good, was, upon
 numerous occasions, a generous patron of
 Literature : but above courting the adu-
 lation of authors, he endeavoured to direct
 the genius and improve the writings of
 persons of useful talents; without leisure
 to arrange and publish so much of his own
 experience as the public desired, he sought
 opportunities of suggesting to others such
 objects of inquiry as might prove most

* This appears to be a translation from *Cato's Letters*,
 Vol. IV. p. 153. 12mo. Anno 1733.

beneficial to the community. Those who are the most capable of instructing mankind, are oftentimes, from a diffidence which associates with true excellence, most backward in imparting instruction. *Cleghorn*, the ingenious and inquisitive *Cleghorn*, who practised long and successfully at *Minorca*, returned to *England* without having arranged his important history of the diseases of that island, which he afterwards did at the suggestion of Dr. FOTHERGILL*. These physicians, to whom the world has been so much indebted, having been early colleagues in study, so they continued intimate friends, emulating each other in medical researches. The latter, when he first read what *Cleghorn* had effected, speaks of his labours with that liberal spirit of approbation, which envies

* The most material parts of Dr. *Cleghorn*'s excellent publication were communicated to Dr. FOTHERGILL, in letters from *Minorca*, dated in the years 1742 and 1744, methodically digested, and written in pure, elegant, and classical Latin, which language he wrote with great fluency. These letters Dr. FOTHERGILL transmitted to Dr. *Cuming*, who was likewise an intimate correspondent of Dr. *Cleghorn*'s, as well as of Dr. *Russell*'s.

not the laudable spirit of another : “ * Mi-
 “ raberis proculdubio *Cleghornii* nostri
 “ industriam ; in orbis etiam angulo situs
 “ majores facit progressus quam nostrorum
 “ quivis, quibus etiam non desunt idonea
 “ studiorum adminicula. Alius itaque alium
 “ excitemus, ut ejus insequamur vestigia,
 “ tantoque viro digni evadamus amici.”

To Dr. *Russell*, his early associate, and afterwards his correspondent at *Aleppo*, whose life he has commemorated with the tenderness of fraternal affection ; to the amiable *Russell*, he urged the importance of an historical narrative of that city and its environs ; and which the latter executed, with a perspicuity that will hand down the work, and the reputation of its author, to distant posterity†.

Within

* Thou wilt no doubt admire the industry of our friend *Cleghorn* ; who, situated in a corner of the world, has made greater progress than any of us, who even do not want the proper aids of study. Let us, therefore, stimulate one another, that we may follow his footsteps, and become the worthy friends of so great a man. Letter to Dr. *Cuming*, 14th August 1742.

† From the time he left *England*, to his return in
February

Within the extent of my knowledge, similar instances might be largely multiplied; and they equally point out his generous ardour in the promotion of useful knowledge : in many literary performances, indeed, his assistance has acquired public acknowledgement, as the respectable names of a *Rutty*, a *Macbride*, a *Falconer*, and many others, testify. Few men of distinguished reputation pass through life with mere silent admiration ; gratitude or respect will at length single them out as patrons of science ; and dedications of just

February 1755, we had maintained, says Dr. FOTHERGILL, a regular correspondence. I could not forbear mentioning to him repeatedly, how acceptable a more accurate account of Aleppo would be to this nation, and to all *Europe* ; that no person would probably ever stand a chance of succeeding in it so happily as himself ; that his long residence there, his knowledge of the language, the manners, customs, diseases of the place, the great credit he had acquired amongst all ranks, by an able, diligent, and disinterested exertion of his faculties, his influence over the *Pascha*, and the respect paid him by the *Turks* themselves, would facilitate every inquiry. He viewed the proposal in the same light, collected materials, made suitable inquiries, and has erected a lasting and honourable monument to his memory. *Life of Dr. Ruffell.*

P

applause,

applause, or misapplied adulation, will follow : but as Dr. FOTHERGILL was uniformly more desirous of doing good, than of having it known, he was averse to dedications, and considered them as a species of literary pageantry, more productive of envy to the patron, than of advantage to the author. I was once with him at *Lea-Hall*, when a gentleman, whose reputation justly afforded him the most honourable distinction, requested to address a work of intrinsic merit to the Doctor, and I well remember his reply :—" My friendship will not
" be augmented by such a public instance
" of respect : apply therefore to some eminent person, whose friendship may thus
" be conciliated ; whereby," added he kindly, " an old friend may be preserved, and
" a new one gained."

That immense work of *Botany*, wherein the pencil of *Miller* illustrated, in a style of unprecedented elegance, the *Sexual System* of *Linnæus*, chiefly from the originals at *Upton*, was actually dedicated to the Doctor ; and afterwards, with no little difficulty

culty in recalling the copies, cancelled at his exprefs follicitation. Though he delighted to encourage ingenuity, he disliked to be told of it.

Purver, the indefatigable tranflator of the Bible and Testament, by wonderful self-exertion, acquired an extenfive knowledge of the languages requifite for this arduous labour; and at length effected, by the patronage, and solely by the patronage of Dr. FOTHERGILL, a literal tranflation of the Sacred Scriptures*: and though a tenacioufnefs in the learned author for provincial idiom, rendered this valuable tranflation lefs read and efteemed, yet independent of idiomatic objections, it may juftly be efimated among the principal productions of the century.

Edwards†, whose Birds acquired new life by his pencil, and who was the firft that added eafe to attitude, and truth to

* In two volumes folio, anno 1765.

† His Natural Hiftory of Birds with his Gleanings are comprized in 7 vols. 4to.

richness of plumage, in this department of *Zoology*, repeatedly acknowledges his obligations to the Doctor; and *Drury*, who with singular accuracy of description, has united the vivid elegance of colouring, which *Entomology* admits, and thereby rendered it at once entertaining and instructive, introduces this liberal patron of Natural History with the warmest expressions of esteem, in the Preface to his *Illustrations of Natural History*, “ I should
 “ think myself totally unpardonable,” he observes, “ if I finished this address, without acknowledging the obligation I am
 “ under to several friends, whose assistance
 “ in this work claims the utmost return of
 “ gratitude: among these in a most particular manner I must mention Dr. FOTHER-
 “ GILL, whose readiness to encourage and
 “ promote every part of Natural History,
 “ must endear him to every man who wishes
 “ well to so useful and beneficial a branch
 “ of knowledge; and it is to the kindness
 “ of that gentleman, the reader will perceive I am indebted for a great number
 “ of figures that form a considerable part
 “ of

“ of this work; many of which are so very
 “ rare, as not to be met with in any other
 “ cabinet.”

In the process of this narrative, I have often had occasion to reflect, that what is known cannot be immediately told. There are circumstances connected with the living, which delicacy forbids to record; or with the dead, whose ashes it were cruel, on account of the surviving friends, to molest: hence many a good man's actions are buried in oblivion. Such must be the lot of many a noble instance of Dr. FOTHERGILL's munificence. I should even have passed over in silence that which the late Dr. *Knight* afforded, had it not been generally known, and recently revived by the classical pen of a respectable physician *. The Librarian of the *British Museum*, whose character was deservedly esteemed, by some speculations in mining, more plausible than productive, became so far involved in his circumstances, as to be obliged to apply to those he deemed

* Memoirs of the Life, and a View of the Character of the late Dr. FOTHERGILL; by G. Thompson M. D.

his friends for pecuniary support ; but his application was received with coolness. In this dilemma, though he really had enjoyed the personal acquaintance of Dr. FOTHERGILL, he could not have presumed upon making such a request, but from the compulsive motive of necessity. The ingenious *Knight*, with diffidence, told the Doctor what would render him once more a happy man. The answer given by the physician of philanthropy, whose heart never felt the distress of another without wishing to remove it, was short but expressive,—“ *I will then make thee happy**.” His was not that drop-like bounty, which pauses in its progress ; it was full, flowing, and benign† ; for I am informed, that in this instance it amounted to about a thousand guineas.

Nullus argento color est avaris,

Abdito terris——‡ HOR. lib. ii. od. 2.

* The immense artificial loadstone, described in Dr. FOTHERGILL's Works, was the invention of Dr. *Knight*, and presented by the former to the *Royal Society*.

† See Dr. *Hird*'s Affectionate Tribute, page 7.

‡ Gold hath no lustre of its own ;

It shines by temperate use alone.

FRANCIS.

Persons,

Persons, whose moments are devoted to employments of profit, are rarely disposed to sacrifice private emolument to public good. Time, to a medical character of high reputation, is a lucrative reality ; and he that devotes a share of it to the benefit of the community, in that proportion sacrifices his private interest. It is rarely, indeed, that physicians depart from the routine of professional practice ; but Dr. FOTHERGILL, whose enlarged mind was capable of embracing every object of utility, was an exception : the punctuality of his conduct, and the perspicuity of his reflections, gave an activity to his mind to promote improvement and perfection in every thing around him. The crowded streets of the Metropolis, its superb edifices, and perpetual traffic, excite admiration in the most indifferent, whose attention may not have been attracted by more minute investigation ; but the active mind of our Associate, unrestrained in its survey of utility, was often engaged in detecting error and pointing out improvement in this splendid city, which he communicated to those concerned in its government,

government, either immediately, or by letters in the public prints. His letters on subjects of police, and in other departments, could they be collected together, would constitute an ample and useful volume, calculated to instruct the magistrate, and inform the architect and tradesman. He condescended even to exert his influence in the improvement of the common pavement; to widen the streets, and open new communications for the health and convenience of the citizens.

As he considered the easy and cheap conveyance of merchandize, and other articles of consumption, from various parts of the nation to and from the Metropolis, as of immense importance to the manufactures, trade, exports, and wealth of the city, he suggested the plan of bringing the northern navigations, which already unite *Liverpool*, *Bristol*, and *Hull*, into the vicinity of *London*, by new canals, the grand reservoir of which he projected to rise in *Cold-Bath-Fields*. In the fertility of his schemes I have listened with pleasure to the familiar manner

manner in which he delineated the facility of this important intercourse ; and probably, when the great tendency of trade towards the North of this kingdom, from the advantage of navigable canals, shall have roused the citizens of *London* to protect and prosecute their own interests, such a project may be seriously revived, and effectually executed *.

Those only, who have acquired the habit of doing much in a little time, know how to estimate its value ; and the œconomy of time, applied to the various concerns of trade and commerce, admits of the most profitable balance in favour of industry and traffic. In this useful point of view, among many others, he considered expeditious communication through the streets of *London* as of singular importance in a mercantile city, and lamented the obvious deficiencies in this respect, which occurred in almost every part of *London*. From the great northern

* See a judicious pamphlet, just published, entitled, *Considerations on the Idea of uniting the Rivers Thames and Severn*, 4to: 1782.

road, the city is chiefly accessible by *Smithfield* and *Bishopsgate-Street*; and from the former of these to the latter, there is no communication that conveniently admits of more than one carriage to pass at a time; whilst suitable avenues, with little expence, might have been formed, by an ample entrance from *Moorfields* to the *Mansion-House*, and from *Islington* to *Black-Friars-Bridge*, in straight lines: this he projected; and, by the exertions of *Charles Dingley*, who constructed the saw-mills at *Limehouse*, in imitation of those at *Sardam*, it had nearly been accomplished. *Black-Friars-Bridge*, one of the first structures of the kind that human industry and judgment ever executed, and which covers the wealthiest stream in the universe, certainly deserves an avenue of some elegance, especially where elegance would necessarily be joined with utility.

Many other parts might be gradually improved, by seizing the opportunities offered by casual conflagrations, or the slow but more certain dilapidations of time, to widen the streets,

streets, or to improve the structure of new edifices ; and few opportunities of this kind escaped the Doctor's attention, and his consequent recommendation to the magistracy*.

Indeed, one of the most dreadful consequences of a large and close-built city, is that of conflagrations which so frequently break out, and against the devastation of which no remedy of the legislature has yet been adequate ; nor perhaps ever will, whilst, under the privilege of freedom structures are raised, and employments carried on, in situations which true policy would interdict. Of these, sugar-houses, and the operations in them, where much fuel is necessarily expended, afford striking examples ; and in this point of view engaged the attention of the Doctor, who at different times proposed various modes of

* After the conflagration of *Langdale's* distillery, at the bottom of *Holborn-Hill*, the Doctor took much pains to have the buildings, to be constructed on their ruins, thrown back, in a line with those on *Holborn-Hill* ; but, laudable as his endeavours were, he laboured in vain.

prevention. When the *Minories* were laid open, by pulling down the old houses, the situation appeared to him eligible for the construction of these and similar hazardous buildings, where the use of fire in great quantity might endanger houses in their vicinity. Two letters upon this subject, though printed without his name, he told me were his productions ; which I have inserted, as instances of his regard to objects of general utility *.

A cause

* GAZETTEER, *December 30, 1768.*

“ I N the compass of one week two sugar-houses, in the most populous parts of the city, have been destroyed by fire, and have spread desolation and terror in the neighbourhood.

“ I consider these edifices as built for destruction ; there being more sugar-houses burnt down than any other houses of manufactory.

“ Whether this is owing to any fault in their construction, or to the ignorance, neglect, and stupidity of those who are employed in this business, I know not.

“ Ought a well-governed city to permit such buildings to be erected as are attended with such dreadful consequences ? Most certainly it ought not.

“ A gentleman, whose life is of great consequence to many, as well as to his family, lay extremely ill of a dangerous disorder : the terrible alarm of fire within
a few

A cause of destruction, almost peculiar to great cities, and perhaps equally frequent and

a few doors made it necessary to take him out of his bed, and to carry him, half naked, to the first hospitable door where the family could think of getting admittance. His recovery was extremely doubtful before: this event will not lessen the hazard.

“ Shall families be stripped of their support, shall the public be deprived of useful members, shall distress and ruin be spread through a neighbourhood unnecessarily, and without any endeavour to prevent the like inconvenience for the future? Humanity, at least, speaks another language. Perhaps hearts, obdurate to every other sensation but that of gain, would pass through the ruins of the metropolis itself, without a sigh, or a wish for the prevention of such fatal accidents!—

“ The city shews, in many respects, an inclination for improvement! and I wish that no more sugar-houses might be suffered to be built in the city, nor those that are built tolerated beyond a certain time, that is, their present leases.

“ I would not presume to direct where these now necessary edifices ought to be built; but, as I think no person ought hastily to find fault with any thing, unless he proposes a remedy, I take the liberty to suggest the following to the consideration of the public.

“ In the tract of ground that lies between the *Minories* and *Poor Jewry-Street*, I think there is space enough now vacant, or likely to become so, on which as many sugar-houses might be erected as there are in the city.

“ Let an act of parliament be obtained to prohibit the
“ future

and fatal as the foregoing, is the mode of interment of the bodies of the dead, and particularly

future erection of any sugar-houses, except in this particular part. The site would be very advantageous to the sugar-bakers themselves; it is near the water-side, and the conveyance to all parts of the town easy. Their fuel, their sugars, would cost less to be laid in here, than in most other places. Besides, the city would be eased, by this means, of one of the greatest nuisances that attends it, the sugar-carts; the unloading and loading of which cost more time to the passengers in carriages, than the brewers drays themselves; for most of the sugar-houses in the city are in narrow streets, yet in streets and passages much frequented: *Bow-Lane*, *Knight-Rider-Street*, and some others, might be mentioned.

“As the parliament is sitting, and the city of *London* may have occasion to apply on divers accounts, I wish they would be pleased, in conjunction with the insurance-offices, whose interest is at stake, to take the premises into consideration, and apply for an act to prevent the building or rebuilding of any more such works in the heart of the city, as in every respect they are prejudicial; for the vast quantity of smoke they produce, and the filth attending them, are as injurious to the health, as the fatal accidents of fire are destructive of the safety of the inhabitants.”

GAZETTEER, *January 19, 1769.*

“THE same motives that induced me first to take notice of the recent calamities occasioned by the sugar-houses lately burnt down, incite me to revive the subject.

“In

particularly those of the poor; which is still continued in this metropolis. In some burying-

“ In scenes of hurry, and perpetual calls to new objects of pleasure, profit, party, and perhaps distress, it is not to be wondered at, if Remarks, even that all approve, are read and forgot.

“ Mention was made in the paper referred to, of the dangers to which the sick in the neighbourhood of fires were peculiarly exposed. I have met with several instances of this nature, since those accidents. One of them is a woman with child, and then within two months of her time: the fire being in the same street, her surprise was excessive; and she was seized with a disorder that seems to threaten the life of the mother and the child, and to deprive a young family of their comfort and support.

“ No doubt but such accidents occur in the vicinity of all fires. Let us, however, secure ourselves from the hazard as much as we can.

“ Within the circuit of a mile and a half, in the most populous part of the city of *London*, there are not less than eighteen sugar-houses. Five or six of these have been burnt down within the last twenty years, and some of them twice, as I am credibly informed.

“ Can the magistrates, can the representatives of this great city, vindicate their supineness, in exposing such a number of their fellow-citizens to all the calamities arising from these houses, devoted, as it were, to the flames, and to spread terror, death, and ruin, through the neighbourhoods in which they are erected?

“ It

burying-grounds the graves are made sufficiently wide to contain three or four wooden coffins abreast, and deep enough to hold twice as many in depth : these pits, after each burial, are covered with a few loose boards, and a little mould, to hide the coffin from common view ; but they are never filled up, till the whole complement of corpses has been interred. When this is done, a second grave is opened upon the same plan, close to the first, leaving the sides of the former coffins still exposed ; by which means these wholesale receptacles of the dead become so offensive, as frequently to oblige the ministers, and others upon funeral duty, to stand at a considerable distance, to avoid the stench hence arising.

“ It is sufficient for a private man to have pointed out the evil. It now becomes the duty of the public, and of those particularly whom the public choice has raised to dignity and honour, to take care that the commonwealth suffers no loss.

“ To these I call ; I call likewise to the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of these buildings, to rouse their representatives in common-council, in the great council of the nation likewise ; to secure them from impending danger.”

The

The insalubrity of such a practice is confirmed by the testimonies of many writers*. It was what Dr. FOTHERGILL uniformly discouraged; and to supply the defect of burying-places within the city, he proposed the site of *Moorfields*, as lying on the north side of the town; southern winds being more sultry, and likely to convey to the inhabitants any noxious exhalations, the diffusion of which, it is well known, northern winds tend rather to check than promote. That this, however, might be executed with decent elegance, he formed the idea of constructing Cemeteries in this large

* I have known instances of the hospital-fever, says Sir John Pringle, beginning in a ward, when there was no other cause but one of the men having a mortified limb. *Diseases of the Army*.

He adds, amongst the causes of malignant fevers, Burials within the towns, and the bodies not laid deep. *Ibid*.

Forestus says, he was an eye-witness to a Plague which arose from the same cause.

Diodorus Siculus observes, that the putrid steams arising from the bodies of those who lay unburied, was one of the causes of that dreadful distemper that broke out among the *Carthaginians* at the siege of *Syracuse*. And numerous other authors attest the same facts.

space of ground, formed into distinct regular rows, suitable for every degree of citizens, and appropriated to families, in the same manner as vaults in general are.

In a large and crowded city, where the free circulation of the air must necessarily be greatly obstructed, every means conducive to the preservation of health should be studiously promoted; and, next to bodily exercise, and the enjoyment of the open air, nothing perhaps contributes more thereto than cleanliness by bathing, which the inhabitants of warmer climates, both in ancient and modern times, considered likewise as the highest gratification, as the multitude of their baths, and the stupendous structures raised for private and public accommodation, in this way, fully testify.

The wealthier citizens of the present time are, indeed, in the habit of enjoying this salutary luxury; though, from the revolution in dress, and the frequent change of clothing, unknown to the ancients, they have neither the necessity of former times,

nor

nor the occasions which the poor at present labour under, for washing themselves from the impurities incident on laborious employments, and the want of change of clothing.

In conversation, Dr. FOTHERGILL has repeatedly mentioned to me the importance of public Baths, for the convenience of the lower classes of the people; and the annexed letter evinces, that he took some active steps towards the accomplishment of this easy, safe, and salutary gratification*.

In

* “ To the DIRECTORS of the New River Company.

“ *Harpur-Street*, Nov. 16, 1780.

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ I take the liberty to mention a circumstance which I think is of some importance to the salubrity of your water, and therefore not unworthy of your consideration.

“ Returning lately from the North, and passing through *Ware*, I was struck with observing the quantity of leaves falling into the New River from the trees growing along its banks; at the same time reflecting, that in the whole of its course to *Islington*, the quantity must be such as could not fail, by rotting in the current, to render the water less pleasant and less wholesome. Whether this circumstance has occurred to you, I know not; but I am

R 2

very

In large communities vice has ever abounded, though the wisest legislators have
 used

very certain it must have a considerable effect on the water; and it appears, from late experiments, that the sun has much influence in meliorating the water. For both these reasons I imagine you will think it expedient to give particular instructions to those who have the immediate care of the river committed to them, to take care to have as many of the trees removed from the verge of the river, as possibly can be done, without creating too much opposition; to prevent, every where, any new ones from being planted so near the river, as to injure it either by their shade or the falling leaves. It is of no small importance, and I doubt not but the matter will be properly attended to.

“ Another circumstance I have long wished to communicate to you, which I think is an affair deserving your consideration: I need not mention the trouble you have annually on account of people bathing in the New River, and the disgust it gives to those who are witnesses of the facts, as well as to those who drink the water and hear of it. The only means I can suggest to prevent this double mischief, is to make it the interest of those who do it, to do otherwise. It seems to me, that you would render an essential service to the community at large, and to the proprietors, if you would either build a few bathing-houses in convenient places, or encourage others to build them, where people might be permitted to bathe at low prices; six-pence, three-pence, a penny each, &c. Begin with a few, extend them as occasion requires; some for
 men,

used endeavours to prevent and restrain it, by the encouragement of industry, and by the infliction of punishments on the commission of crimes. Liberty, the birthright of man, the possession of which he cannot be too solicitous to maintain, has, in most states, been denied to criminal members of

men, some for women; some for boys, others for girls; and a peace officer or two to be on the spot, to see that no irregularities are committed. On vacant spots in the *Spaw-Fields*, and other parts in the vicinage of populous places, they might be built conveniently, and let to advantage, limiting the tenants to low rates, for the accommodation of servants, and others, who cannot afford a shilling a time; and many for this reason go into ponds and rivers beyond their depth, to the loss of several lives.

“ As I am persuaded that by this means you might prevent, or be enabled to punish with due severity, transgressors, and do a public benefit, I have no doubt but you will excuse me for suggesting these considerations; in the execution of which I shall readily communicate every thing that has occurred to me respecting it.

“ I am, with much respect,

“ Your Friend,

“ J. FOTHERGILL.”

[Communicated to my late valuable friend, *John Scott*, Esq. of *Amwell*, well known in the literary world, by the late *Amie Garnault*, Esq. of *Bull's Cross*, *Middlesex*, who was an active member of the New River Company.]

society;

fociety ; and, in some instances also, where the breach of social regulations has been the effect of unavoidable misfortune, rather than of actual vice : it has, however, always been the wish of humanity, that punishments could be so applied, as to be strictly adequate to the degree of offence. Certain it is, that the indiscriminate confinement of many persons together, is productive of two unhappy inconveniencies ; the first, as it affects the body, by generating infectious diseases ; and the other, as it contaminates the mind, by hardening the vicious, and, by their example, depraving those not already abandoned. All *Europe* is acquainted with the benevolent, the godlike exertions of *Howard*, whose memory will ever be dear to the miserable tenant of a prison, and to whose labours that elegant statesman, *Burke*, has borne the most honourable testimony*.

This

* I cannot name this gentleman (Mr. *Howard*) without remarking, that his labours and writing have done much to open the eyes and hearts of mankind. He has visited all *Europe*,—not to survey the sumptuousness of palaces, or the stateliness of temples ; not to make accurate

This *Howard* was the intimate friend of Dr. FOTHERGILL; they were the friends of humanity; and both were employed in lessening the miseries of human life, though in different spheres; but in attempting to prevent those injuries and diseases which human contagion produces, they united their labours. The legislature justly alarmed at repeated instances of infection, which pri-

rate measurements of the remains of ancient grandeur, nor to form a scale of the curiosity of modern art; not to collect medals, or to collate manuscripts:—but to dive into the depths of dungeons; to plunge into the infection of hospitals; to survey the mansions of sorrow and pain; to take the gage and dimensions of misery, depression, and contempt; to remember the forgotten, to attend to the neglected, to visit the forsaken, and to compare and collate the distresses of all men in all countries. His plan is original; and it is as full of genius as it is of humanity. It was a voyage of discovery; a circumnavigation of charity. Already the benefit of his labour is felt, more or less, in every country: I hope he will anticipate his final reward, by seeing all its effects fully realized in his own. He will receive, not by retail, but in gross, the reward of those who visit the prisoner; and he has so forestalled and monopolized this branch of charity, that there will be, I trust, little room to merit by such acts of benevolence hereafter. *Burke's Speech at the Guildhall, in Bristol, 1780.*

soners diffeminated in courts when brought before their judges, was disposed to receive the best advice for obviating such baneful effects. Dr. FOTHERGILL and his friend were desired to attend the House of Commons ; before which they gave such information, as induced the legislature to pass a Bill, entitled, “ An Act for preserving the “ Health of Prisoners in Gaol, and preventing the Gaol Distemper,” anno 1774 ; and afterwards to recommend the building of detached or Penitentiary houses*, as a mode of punishment calculated to restrain indolence and vice. These two distinguished persons, with *George Whatley*, Esq. were appointed, by the king, Commissioners for directing suitable buildings to carry into execution this new system of correction.

The

* *J. Clitherow*, Esq. the brother-in-law of the late judge *Blackstone*, in the preface to his Reports, containing memoirs of his life, attributes, in a great measure, the origin of these houses to his amiable brother. “ In these houses,” says he, “ the convicts are to be separately confined during the intervals of their labour,—debarred from all incentives to debauchery,—instructed in religion and morality,—and forced to work for the benefit of the public.

The first of these, our President, did not live to see this useful design completed, though he had laboured assiduously, in digesting it, and had previously inserted some useful remarks on the punishments of convicts, in the public prints, which I think too important to be omitted in his Works.

To obviate, however, or rather repress the first eruptions of vicious propensity, is an object of the greatest importance to the welfare and happiness of the community. In some instances, more might be effected by lenient means than by severe punish-

public. Imagination cannot figure to itself a species of punishment, in which terror, benevolence, and reformation, are more happily blended together. What can be more dreadful to the riotous, the libertine, the voluptuous, the idle delinquent, than solitude, confinement, sobriety, and constant labour? Yet what can be more truly beneficial? Solitude will awaken reflection; confinement will banish temptation; sobriety will restore vigour; and labour will beget a habit of honest industry: while the aid of a religious instructor may implant new principles in his heart; and, when the date of his punishment is expired, will conduce to both his temporal and eternal welfare. Such a prospect as this is surely well worth the trouble of an experiment."

S

ments :

ments: one begets gratitude, and a desire to retrieve reputation; the other hardens the mind, excites the passions of revenge and cruelty, and confirms a more abandoned profligacy of conduct. There are even vices, which seem to vibrate from a false shame, or mistaken integrity: the impoverished husband, upon whom the sustenance of a family depends, may privately steal, or boldly rob, from feeling the cogency of domestic sensibility, without any vicious design to injure another: and such individuals are not irreclaimable; for such, to my knowledge, have been reclaimed.

*In vitium ducit culpæ fuga——**

HOR. Ars Poet. l. xxxi.

But the most effectual barrier against corruption of manners, and the influence of vicious example, is an early and guarded education. As the sun is to the external, so is learning to the intellectual eye;

* ——— whilst one fault they shun,
Into its opposite extreme they run.

it enables the mind to distinguish truth from error, often endows it with stability and strength to combat vicious propensities, and render it susceptible of enjoying the felicities of life, without adopting its follies, or entailing its miseries. To promote this useful education, Dr. FOTHERGILL was a liberal advocate. How much he contributed towards the seminaries of learning instituted at *Williamsburg, New-York, and Philadelphia*, I am not particularly assured ; but if the extent of his liberality may be estimated by the degree of gratitude and respect with which his memory is revered throughout *America*, it must have been ample.

In the wide stream of public good, he did not overlook the situation of his own religious persuasion ; where his influences were most powerful, and where congenial minds were more united in promoting his laudable views. He had long endeavoured to institute an extensive establishment for the education of the children of the Society not in affluence ; but nothing was effectually

ally done, until, as Dr. *Hird* observes*,
 “ by one of those fortunate events, on
 “ which hangs the fate of many great un-
 “ dertakings, the whole of his design be-
 “ came easy and practicable. On his return
 “ from *Cheshire*, through *Yorkshire*, in the
 “ year 1778, he did me the favour of
 “ being my guest a few days, during which
 “ time he was visited by many of his friends
 “ in those parts. In one of these inter-
 “ views, the conversation turned on an in-
 “ stitution at *Gildersome*, a small establish-
 “ ment for the education of poor children
 “ amongst the Society : the Doctor was
 “ inquiring into its state and management,
 “ and how far it might serve as a model
 “ for a larger undertaking : a just descrip-
 “ tion being given of it, with the follow-
 “ ing remark, that not only this, but all
 “ others, however laudable the motives
 “ from which they took their rise, must
 “ fail of success, without a constant super-
 “ intending care and unremitting attention
 “ to the first great object of the institution.

* Affectionate Tribute, page 21, 22.

“ This idea was exemplified by the then
 “ present state of the *Foundling-Hospital*
 “ at *Ackworth* ; which, although originat-
 “ ing from the most humane principle,
 “ and erected at a vast expence, was, from
 “ repeated inattentions to the first design,
 “ in danger of dilapidation, and ready for
 “ public sale. This relation struck the
 “ Doctor forcibly ; ‘ Why may not this,’
 “ said he, ‘ serve the very purpose I am in
 “ pursuit of ?’ To be short, the building,
 “ and an estate of eighty acres of land, were
 “ purchased, improved, and furnished by
 “ subscription. The Doctor set a generous
 “ example by his own contribution, and
 “ an endowment by his will in perpe-
 “ tuity.”

I have inserted this quotation, as it ex-
 plains the incident which brought Dr. FO-
 THERGILL acquainted with this eligible
 situation, respecting which he afterwards
 expressed his warmest approbation, in a
 Letter to a Friend, which I have preserved
 in his Works. “ Though I had not seen
 the building,” he observes, “ I had seen
 and

and considered a plan of the house, and learned from that, and from the report of many who had been on the spot, that the building, the situation, the healthfulness of the country, the plenty of provisions, and the vicinity of many valuable friends, were such, that if it could be purchased, and properly endowed, it might, in many respects, answer the intention of friends, and lay the ground-work of an useful and permanent establishment. The children of friends not in affluent circumstances, are the objects of *Ackworth-School*; the children of such persons, as must either provide for their offspring a very cheap education, or none at all. And there is great reason to believe, that the inability of many friends to make such provision, or to find any means of obtaining a safe education, has been the occasion of keeping their children at home, where it was impracticable to keep them at all times from corrupt company." The human mind, it has been observed, must have some object in view; and if virtue and propriety do not engage it, vice and folly will: whatever, therefore,

busies

buſies the mind, without corrupting it, has at leaſt this uſe, that it reſcues the day from idleneſs; and he that is never idle, will not often be vicious: and when habits of induſtry are confirmed by uſeful meditation, virtuous ſentiments will be more eaſily inculcated; for, if Virtue could be ſeen, ſhe muſt be loved; and if Truth could be heard, ſhe muſt be obeyed.

Oderunt peccare boni virtutis amore.*

HOR. Epist. 16. l. i. v. 52.

The ſucceſs of this School rewarded Dr. FOTHERGILL's well-grounded expectations. That ingenious writer, whoſe authority I have repeatedly appealed to, is particularly acquainted with the preſent ſtate of this extenſive eſtabliſhment, as he reſides in its vicinity, and has thought it ſo far an object of his attention, as perſonally to viſit it; and his deſcription, communicated in 1781, affords a pleaſing proſpect of its utility and probable permanency; and I may add, that its improved ſtate, at the preſent time, affords further confirma-

* The good, for Virtue's ſake, diſdain to ſin.

tion of its success. “ There are,” he observes*, “ above three hundred children, “ of both sexes, under the roof, furnished “ with all the necessary conveniencies and “ comforts of life, properly clothed, and “ educated in every branch of knowledge “ suitable for the station in which it is “ presumed they may be placed. And, to “ the satisfaction of every benevolent heart, “ it may be truly said, that the institution “ is at present in a most flourishing state, “ fully answering the design of its founders ; being conducted under the care of “ a number of chosen guardians, of ability, “ and of exemplary conduct, with an exactness of order, decency, and propriety, “ extremely striking, and perfectly pleasing to all who have visited it, though “ not of the same Society.—The children “ are taught habits of regularity, of de-

* Dr. *Hird's* Affectionate Tribute, page 22, 23.— I am sorry to add here, that this excellent physician and agreeable companion did not long survive this Tribute to his honoured friend and relation. At the time of his decease, he was physician to the *Leeds-Infirmery*; in which office he has been succeeded by my friend Dr. *Walker*, a physician of distinguished abilities and humanity.

“ cency,

“ cency, and respectful subordination to
 “ their superiors ; of forbearance, affection,
 “ and kindness towards each other ; and of
 “ religious reverence towards their Maker ;
 “ and, I may further add, those habits of
 “ silence and recollection, taught and prac-
 “ tised in the ancient schools of philo-
 “ sophy, inculcated in the Scriptures, and
 “ most emphatically called, *the true door of*
 “ *entrance into the school of wisdom.*”

Had not the Doctor's life been distin-
 guished by a series of illustrious actions,
 this noble institution at *Ackworth* was alone
 sufficient to endear his name to posterity,
 by conferring upon subsequent genera-
 tions the means of an useful education,
 placing out the virtues of youth to the best
 usury, where the interest is, of all others,
 the most productive and permanent ; for
 education, operating on an amiable dispo-
 sition, draws out to view every latent virtue
 and perfection, which might otherwise lie
 dormant, or remain obscured ; for not to
 have reason, and to have it useless and un-
 employed, is nearly the same. This pub-

lic action was consistent with the tenor of his life, and constituted one uniform system of philanthropy, where the heart melted with benevolence, and where the hand showered liberality*.

*Gratum est, quod patriæ civem, populoque
dedisti,*

*Sic facis ut patriæ sit idoneus, utilis agris,
Utilis——et pacis rebus agendis.*

*Plurimum enim intererit, quibus artibus, et
quibus hunc tu*

Moribus instituas——†.

JUV. Sat. xiv. l. 70.

* It must afford satisfaction to every friend of humanity to know, that in the establishment of *Ackworth-School*, many congenial dispositions aided Dr. FOTHERGILL whilst he was living, and persevere to promote it since his death. In *David Barclay* particularly, whose name I have already mentioned, equal ardour is exerted, as there was before equal philanthropy and beneficence.

† “What satisfaction must it yield to a parent or guardian, that he has been able to rear up, and give to the community a worthy and useful member of society, one well versed in agriculture, and qualified to cultivate and conduct the arts of peace! But to effect this, it is essentially necessary that the pupil’s understanding should be well instructed in useful knowledge, and his mind impregnated with sound principles and moral rectitude.”

In

In the days of superstition and ignorance, when persons of extensive literature were deemed extraordinary phenomena, whoever excelled in letters was distinguished from the common class of mankind, and viewed with that veneration which superior knowledge and endowment inspire ; but as literature became diffused, men of letters having many equals, the peculiar distinction or pre-eminence of primæval times was less discernible. In the professors of physic, at present, not only the learning of the schools, but science in general, is a part of medical accomplishment. In an extent of science, equally diffuse and unlimited, it would be impracticable, as well as indelicate, to draw a comparison of living characters ; nor could a certain criterion be deduced from suppositious reputation, which must always be partial : to estimate it by pecuniary emolument would be inadequate, because the product of the professors of physic cannot be accurately known ; and if it could, the degree of practice could not thence be ascertained, the liberality of individuals not only varying, but the mode-

ration likewise of the faculty in accepting gratuities. That Dr. FOTHERGILL acquired much in the line of his profession, we know by the amplitude of his generosity; but the exact extent he never disclosed. Calculations sometimes have been formed from the time that has been devoted to business: with individuals, whose moments are constantly employed, he will accomplish the most who is the best œconomist of time; and no time can certainly be better employed, than that which is devoted to sick and helpless friends. But were medical character to be decided by the œconomy of time, no man had a more decided claim to pre-eminence than Dr. FOTHERGILL: he made every moment important, by a wonderful regularity of manners in all his concerns, and his domestics had acquired a similar punctuality; and thus, by general order and system, not a moment seemed with him lost in relays, nor in his movements from one object to another. If some people live out half their days without numbering one, he estimated time too highly to say with the

Roman

Roman Titus, Diem perdidit. If the length of time were to be measured by the quick succession of ideas, no man lived longer every day, or I may indisputably add, lived more usefully.

*Ampliat ætatis spatium sibi vir bonus, hoc est Vivere bis, vitâ posse priore frui.**

MART. Ep. 23. l. 10.

Sometimes indeed it happens, that physicians have acquired much city practice, without any extent of reputation, out of the vicinity of their residence; but with respect to Dr. FOTHERGILL, it may be safely asserted, that if he had not attained the first rank in town, he certainly had the most general reputation through the kingdom and it's colonies, of any contemporary physician. Whenever he went to *Lea-Hall*, or to any distance from town, he was as constantly intercepted by a concourse of Valetudinarians, who had found means to get information of his route. In the

* The present joys of life we doubly taste,
By looking back with pleasure to the past.

year 1769, my excellent guardian, his brother *Samuel*, was indisposed during his visit in *London*; and as he was desirous of returning homewards, I was requested to accompany him to *Lea-Hall*, and the Doctor proposed to follow us soon after. I was then a student of medicine; but I could not avoid remarking the numerous applications made to us to ascertain the time of his passing through different stages. I think he once informed me, that he had upwards of fifty applications at one place in his journey: I have been his Amanuensis repeatedly for at least twenty patients at one sitting. At home, indeed, the present generation will not require to be told, that he had the confidence of the public as a physician; of his patients, likewise, as a near and confidential friend; and of the literary, as a respectable associate. He was chosen, in 1754, a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians at *Edinburgh*, as he had early been of the Medical Society* instituted

* Near fifty years ago, several students of medicine formed this Society, for their mutual instruction and advancement

stituted there, and since incorporated by royal authority; and in 1763, he was elected
a Fellow

advancement in their studies. “ Every student of a certain standing, who distinguished himself by his diligence, capacity, and conduct, was initiated into this little assembly. Here the opinions of the ancients, of their contemporaries, nay the doctrines of their masters, were frequently discussed; and two of the members were always charged with the task of providing instruction and entertainment for the next meeting of the Society. Questions, no doubt, were here disputed and decided, which long experience would have declined. But it exercised their faculties, gave them both sides of arguments, taught them to doubt, and habituated them to observation.” Dr. FOTHERGILL’s *Life of Dr. Ruffell*, page 367 in the edition of his Works.

When one considers the utility, as well as high reputation of a Society, begun and conducted by students, curiosity is naturally excited to date the commencement of this singular and useful institution; which I am enabled to do, by the information of one of its first and most respectable members. In the latter end of *August 1734*, the under-written Gentlemen *, then fellow students in the Schools of Medicine at *Edinburgh*, who had been
long

* *Dr. Cleghorn.*

Dr. Cuning.

Dr. Ruffell.

Dr. Hamilton, son to the then Professor of Divinity at *Edinburgh*; who having finished his studies, took his Degree there, publishing on that occasion a Thesis, *De Morbis Offium*.—He afterwards settled at *Annapolis*, in *North-Carolina*, where he died many years ago.

a Fellow of the Royal Society of *London*; and was one of the earliest members of the American Philosophical Society, instituted at *Philadelphia*.

Thus

long familiarly acquainted, and entertained a reciprocal regard for each other, after having employed themselves, during the three preceding weeks, in the dissection of a body in the Anatomical Theatre, agreed to spend a social evening together at a tavern.—After supper it was proposed, by one of the company, that this little Society should meet once a fortnight, early in the evening, at their respective lodgings; that a dissertation, in English or Latin, on some medical subject, at the choice of the Society, should be composed, and to be read at each of these meetings, to which such objections as occurred to the rest of the company should be made, which the author was to obviate in the best manner he could. This proposal was cordially assented to by all present; and Dr. *Cuming* was appointed by the other members to prepare a dissertation for their first meeting, on the signs, causes, and method of cure of the *Rabies Canina*: this he accordingly did, and read to the Society on the 20th of *December* following. Dr. *Russell* followed in one, *De*

Mr. *Archibald Taylor*, brother to a physician of that name at *Edinburgh*; an ingenious young man, who died a few years after in the *East-Indies*.

Dr. *James Kennedy*; who after having taken his Degree in Physic, was invited to accompany a young gentleman of fortune in the Tour of *Europe*.—On his return home, after having spent three years in this employment, he purchased a commission in the army, and was for many years senior captain of dragoons.—Why Doctor FOTHERGILL was not associated into this little band, cannot now be recollected; but he was known to, and highly esteemed by, every one of the members.

Gonorrhoea

Thus conspicuous as a physician in the first city in *Europe*, his character could not but be known on the continent, where science is cultivated with the same commendable ardour. *Linnæus*, the late botanical luminary at *Upsal*, had distinguished a species of *Polyandria Digynia* by the name of *Fothergilla Gardeni*. In 1776 he was chosen a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine at *Paris*; for men of true science, of every nation, even in the tumult of empires, are united in endeavouring to render mankind wiser and happier; they are ever of one party; and the *French*, whose literary exertions reflect honour on the na-

Gonorrhœa virulenta; then came Dr. *Cleghorn*, *De Epilepsia*; *Kennedy*, *De Fluxu Menstruum*, &c.—This association continued during that winter, and the ensuing spring; but, in the summer of 1735, the members of this little Society were dispersed, and *Cleghorn* alone remained to continue, with his respected FOTHERGILL and some others, of this association during the subsequent winter. This was the humble and fortuitous commencement of a Society, that has since become highly respectable by its obvious utility, and the names of many learned and eminent physicians which it records in the list of its members, and it is now incorporated by Royal Charter.

tion and on the age, instituted, in 1776, a Royal Medical Society; and, to render it more extensively beneficial, they have chosen Fellows and corresponding members from the ingenious of all nations. Of the number in this kingdom, whose characters acquired the suffrages of this Society, was our late President: their address to him upon that occasion is marked with a spirit of true philosophy, which is not restricted within the limits of empires; and its insertion here must be acceptable to every liberal mind.

“ * DOCTOR ILLUSTRISIME,

“ QUAS hodie confociationis litteras offert tibi Regia Societas Medica *Parisiensis*, ego tantò libentius ad te mitto, quod dulcissimum et utilissimum epistolare commercium nobis procul dubio concedes, quodque mihi

* “ ILLUSTRIOUS DOCTOR,

“ I the more willingly send you the letters of admission into membership, which the Royal Medical Society of *Paris* this day offers you, because we shall doubtless gain a most agreeable and useful literary correspondence with you, and because such an association
and

mihi jucundissima maximèque proficua talis erit confraternitas. Institutionis edictæ dispositiones, inauguralemque simul orationem benignè cum hac epistolâ recipias velim. Plurimarum jam Academiarum codices condecorat immortale nomen tuum ; sed in Academiâ ferè medicâ conscribi à consodalibus, summæ existimationis testimonia recipere, tua famâ non indignum fore credidimus ; ego que præsertim vividissime gaudeo, quod locus ille quem in nostrâ Societate mihi concedit Rex Christianissimus *Gallarum*, frequentiæ meæ totius ergà te observantiæ specimina redditurus sit, istasque multiplicabit

and brotherhood will be extremely pleasing, and particularly useful to me. The edicts of the institution, the forms of it, and the inaugural oration, I wish you kindly to receive, together with this letter. Your immortal name is already an honour to the registers of many academies ; but to be enrolled a member of an academy almost wholly medical, by the Fellows of it, and to receive the highest testimonies of their esteem, we thought would not be unworthy of your reputation ; and I especially feel a very sensible pleasure in it, because the place assigned me in our Society by the Most Christian King, will enable me to render frequent proofs of my entire esteem for you, and will multiply

multiplicabit occasiones, in quibus me dicam
semper,

“ Doctor illustrissime,

“ Obsequentissimum tui servum

“ et cultorem,

LUTETIÆ PARISIARUM, “ VICQ. D’AZYR.”
die mensis *Decembris* 1776.

“ P. S. Tantam tibi offert vovetque Re-
gia Societas ut quales illi correspondentes,
numerandos esse in tua provinciâ judicabitis,
tales acceptura sit et libentissime pro suis
sit habitura : si ergo institutionis nostræ fruc-
tus et commoda augere non recuses, omnia
quæcunque Societatis gratiâ facies, jucun-
dissima

those opportunities in which I shall always subscribe
myself,

“ Illustrious Doctor,

“ Your most devoted servant,

“ and admirer,

“ VICQ. D’AZYR.”

“ P. S. The Royal Society places so much confi-
dence in you, that the persons you shall judge proper
for their correspondents, within the sphere of your ac-
quaintance, they will receive, and very readily esteem
them as such : if, therefore, you do not refuse to aug-
ment the fruit and advantages of our institution, we
shall esteem whatever you do for the good of the Society

diffima et rectissima reputabimus. Age igitur, co-operatores inter amicos doctissimosque collegas quorum merita non noscimus, elige nobis, optima quæ detexerunt, quæque detexisti ipse, sedulo communica, medicæque correspondentiæ per te crescat utilitas et amplitudo, nos consocios, eidem philosophiæ studentes, ejusdemque veritatis amantes et æmulos reddat nova confederatio. Sese noscunt à longo tempore cæteri viri Literati, mediantibus academiis, medici vero nullo ferè nexu junguntur, celeberrimorumque tantum vix nomina callemus. Fiamus
autem

as highly agreeable, and to be depended upon. Let me entreat you then to choose out for us assistants and co-partners amongst the most learned of your friends and colleagues whose merits we do not know, and diligently to communicate their best discoveries, and what you yourself have discovered, that so the usefulness and extent of medical correspondence may be increased, and a true confederacy render us brethren, students of the same philosophy, and zealous lovers of the same truths. The Literati in other arts and sciences have for a long time, by means of academies, been acquainted with each other; physicians are scarcely connected by any tie, the bare names of the most illustrious among them being hardly known. But let us become correspondents by mutual letters in every part of *Europe*. And
lastly,

autem mutuis epistolis ex omnibus *Europæ* finibus correspondentes. Dein utinam, amici et quidquid eveniat uniti : medicinaque tandem fit una ut *Hippocrates*, nec amplius, ut est hodie multiplex. Hæc sunt quæ sperat à te academica illa Societas, quam *tuam* dicere possumus, quippe qui Socius ab eâ jam à plurimis mensibus denunciatus fuisti.”

Dr. FOTHERGILL had now attained the Zenith of medical reputation : in national concerns, or public calamities from disease, his opinion was sought after, and as uniformly adopted. When the *British* House of Commons was informed of the dreadful fatality of the gaol distemper, among the *French* and *Spanish* prisoners confined in *Winchester*, Dr. FOTHERGILL's opinion was

lastly, I wish that we may be friends, and united together, whatever may happen*: medicine then would be uniform, and the same in all places, as *Hippocrates* wished it to be, and not as it is at present, divided into parties. These are the things this academic Society wishes to promote, and which we may now call your Society, seeing you have been declared a Fellow of it for some months.”

* Probably referring to the commencement of the war.

instantly

instantly taken upon the subject, and he recommended Dr. *J. Carmichael Smith* to superintend the prison, to avert, if possible, the spreading contagion ;—the singular success of whose attendance, whilst it did honour to Dr. *Smith's* medical knowledge, reflected no less upon Dr. FOTHERGILL'S discernment in the choice of an able physician ; as the following report from the Office for Sick and Wounded Seamen will fully justify.

A Weekly progressive State of the Sickness and Mortality among the Spanish Prisoners, confined in the King's House at Winchester; from the first Appearance of the Gaol Distemper, until the 8th of July 1780.

Date of Weekly Accounts.	Number of <i>Spanish</i> Prisoners.		
	In Custody.	Sick.	Dead.
March 26, 1780	1247	60	1
April 2, —	1243	106	4
9, —	1475	150	10
16, —	1457	172	18
23, —	1433	142	21
30, —	1412	171	21
May 7, —	1388	191	25
14, —	1351	197	27
21, —	1523	205	30
28, —	1494	226	31
* June 3, —	1461	262	33
10, —	1437	212	26
17, —	1426	173	9
24, —	1420	167	5
July 1, —	1414	143	5
8, —	1433	122	2

* The time of Dr. Carmichael Smith's going to *Winchester*.—It would prove highly useful to the public, were this ingenious physician to communicate his method of treatment, which was attended with such obvious success. A prisoner is an object of compassion in every point of view.

Long

Long before this period, it is well known that the Empress of *Russia*, with a spirit of freedom and resolution, which added lustre to her dignified station, resolved to receive the Small-Pox by Inoculation; and having heard of the *Suttons* as celebrated in this department, ordered her ambassador at the *British* court to send an experienced person to *Peterburgh* to perform the operation. When this order arrived, Dr. FOTHERGILL was consulted; and by his influence, and by his alone, the life of the empress was entrusted to a physician (Doctor, afterwards Baron *Dimsdale*) whose experience entitled him to this distinguished employment. When Dr. FOTHERGILL related this circumstance to me, he mentioned it merely as a matter of confidential information, without appearing sensible of the influence and importance of his extensive reputation.

But a life thus spent in the conscientious discharge of every duty, and the uniform practice of every virtue, could not shield him from the misrepresentations of envy, malevolence, and avarice, as the accusations

of two persons, at different periods of time, amply proved. Those who have been acquainted with Dr. FOTHERGILL, during the last ten or twelve years of his life, must know that I allude to the prosecution commenced against him by one, for a supposed injury; and to the partiality of which he was accused by the other, in adjusting a difference between him and a respectable Baronet. Of these transactions it is unnecessary here to enter into a minute detail: the decree, pronounced on the former case by that learned and sagacious judge, the Lord Chief Justice of *England*, most honourably justified the character of our late President from every imputation of wrong*; and his own pen† not only entirely vindicated him from every aspersions of partiality and injustice thrown upon him by his accuser, but also exhibited most exemplary instances of candour, liberality of sentiment, and generosity.

* See Gentleman's Magazine, *November* 1781.

† Introductory Remarks on the Preface of *Parkinson's Journal of a Voyage*.

Persons, whose stated employments preclude the enjoyment of leisure, naturally acquire a habit of brevity in the dispatch of their concerns : in conversation they apply immediately to the subject of discussion ; in writing, they compress much in a small space. In addition to this kind of compulsive dispatch, acquired by the urgency of important transactions, Dr. FOTHERGILL possessed a remarkable quickness of perception ; and, what is unusual with vivacity of mind, united solidity of judgment. Those who did not personally know him, must form the same opinion of him, from the display of genius and sagacity in his early publications. Some of these I have already adverted to ; and to them I might add his early essays in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1751, and the three subsequent years.

His pieces in the *Medical. Inquiries*, a publication which commenced in June 1757, and is still continued, have been read by the Faculty universally, and always with approbation, as they contain facts that cannot be too well known ; and wherever they are

known, they will be adopted, with as little exception, at least, as can be supposed to arise in an improving art. If his language was not always minutely correct (probably owing to want of time) it was easy and fluent, and, what in such compositions is more valuable, it was accurately descriptive.

His epistolary writing was instructive and sprightly. As he was not confined to the didactic solidity of medical disquisitions, where knowledge is passive, and genius superfluous, and where facts and experiments, rather than ornament and elegance, are the leading objects, his language was less restrained; it was more brilliant, but less correct; it was more varied and amusing, and at the same time it was chaste and instructive; and, like his conversation, the same sentiments were conveyed, in a liveliness of colouring and frankness of expression, that in any other point of view might have afforded no emotion of pleasure, or proof of superior endowments. There was indeed a charm in his converse and address,

dress, as hath been ingenuously remarked, that affected some with a transport of admiration, and commanded the high regard and opinion of those who employed him; whilst, by a discreet uniformity of conduct, he so fixed the capriciousness of mankind, that he was not apt to forfeit the esteem he had once acquired. His mind was of that happy versatility, that he could easily break off from important concerns, and enter into a familiar and pleasant conversation, with all the indifference of a man of leisure; and as easily resume the variety of his serious engagements, as if they had never been interrupted*.

Hilarisque, tamen cum pondere, virtus†.

STAT.

As the highest stations are exposed to peculiar inconveniences, so the brightest genius is not unfrequently clouded with a counterpart: the mind that is endowed

* Dr. Thompson's Life and Character of Dr. FOTHERGILL, page 29, 30.

† Cheerful, with the dignity of a virtuous mind.

with

with the quickest perception, whilst interested in multifarious concerns, is not only liable to acquire an habit of deciding hastily, but a tenaciousness of its decisions. In this epitome of Dr. FOTHERGILL'S character, I have endeavoured to delineate the outlines with impartiality, to estimate his faults as well as his virtues : and, though the brilliancy of the latter hath shone through the clouds of the former, I consider this promptitude of adopting an opinion, and tenacious retention of it, as the most censurable part of a life (so far as I know, and I knew it well) otherwise blameless. Perfection is never the lot of humanity ; and in extenuation of this disposition it might be argued, that whilst he formed an hasty, his solidity of judgment prevented a wrong determination : like the ballast of a ship, it kept steady the sails that were exposed to the sudden gusts of a storm. This failing, however, such as it was, has been sometimes remarked by the Faculty, in consultations with the Doctor, and remarked with censure ; but whoever has been honoured and consulted for a series of years as
a medical

a medical oracle, must have attained that experience, which affords the best presumption for firmness of opinion : nay, were the censure well founded, happy is the man, and happy the patients of that physician, who passeth through life with so much undeviating rectitude !

In this place, I cannot but gratefully recall to mind how much I owed to my deceased friend, when I left *Europe* to revisit my native island : that though after seventeen years absence, I returned to the bosom of my relations and of my friends ; yet, it must be admitted, as a medical man, my character was solely reflected from the patronage of Dr. FOTHERGILL, whose name was as familiar throughout *North-America*, and the *Antilles*, as in *London*.

With respect to political affairs, as connected with those of *North-America*, he had long formed a decided opinion, “ Whether we look at the well-being and content of near two millions of *English* subjects on that continent, descended from and connected

ned with ourselves ; or weigh the effects which their discontent and unhappiness must unavoidably produce on this country, scarce a more important object can present itself to an *Englishman*.

Without entering into the causes and effects of a contest, which it is now our ir-retrievable misfortune to lament in vain, it was from its commencement the strenuous advice of Dr. FOTHERGILL, to treat our trans-atlantic brethren with a lenity due to fellow-subjects, whose rights and privileges being the same, entitled them to share in the prosperity and the enjoyments of the whole empire. “ If we inquire,” he observed, “ into the conduct of the wisest
 “ states to their distant colonies, we shall
 “ find it always to have been, to treat them
 “ with kindness and indulgence, to engage
 “ them to look back to the mother country
 “ with duty and affection, and to recompense the protection they have enjoyed,
 “ by the produce of their labour, their
 “ commerce, and, when needed, their assistance. We meet not with many instances,
 “ instances,

“ stances, comparatively, even of distant
 “ conquered countries revolting, till causes
 “ of strong disgust had sown the seeds of
 “ discontent, and succeeding acts of op-
 “ pression and injustice had ripened them
 “ into rebellion.”

“ Colonies sprung from *Britain*,” he
 observed, “ will bear much ; but it is to
 “ be remembered, that they are the sons of
 ‘ freedom ; and what they have been early
 ‘ taught to look upon as virtue in their
 “ ancestors, will not soon be forgotten by
 “ themselves : nay, they will the sooner
 “ be apt to vindicate their wrongs.”

As he was of opinion, that whatever the
 motives of their migration may have been,
 the effects of this migration have undoubt-
 edly been signally beneficial to this coun-
 try ; and therefore, if any distinction were
 to be made, a particular distinction was due
 to these distant subjects, whilst harsh and
 ungracious treatment would make them de-
 sirous of forgetting that they are of *English*
 descent, lessen their duty and allegiance,

and induce them impatiently to look forward to that independency, which their situation favours; and this the more eagerly, in proportion to the prejudices they have imbibed against a government they think oppressive.

Unfortunately for this country, those measures which the *Americans* deemed oppressive, were eagerly pursued; and what Dr. FOTHERGILL, and most men who were acquainted with that continent and its inhabitants, early predicted, he lived to see realized.

Uniform as he was in opinion respecting the political objects which so long convulsed the empire, he was either misrepresented or not understood. He was so accurately informed of the power of *America*, and with the wishes of some of the principal of its inhabitants, that, long before the fatal transaction at *Lexington*, he foretold, as probable consequences of the projected measures, many of the great events which time has since evolved. If a man be cen-
furable

furable for the accomplishment of his predictions, Dr. FOTHERGILL was certainly so ; but were such reasoning admissible, all the great characters of sacred and general history, whom we have been hitherto accustomed to reverence, must fall under a similar predicament : if their sagacity, or their superior information, had enlarged their views, and enabled them with precision to estimate the result of certain actions, the rulers to whom they communicated their observations, and who, possessing the power, but being perhaps otherwise informed, did not take adequate precautions to prevent what had been foretold, have been deemed answerable for the event. I can venture to assert, that no man laboured more anxiously than Dr. FOTHERGILL did, to prevent what he predicted as eventual from the prosecution of certain measures—the dismemberment of the empire.

Having access, by his profession, to families of the first distinction, he embraced occasional opportunities of suggesting his opinion of the prevailing system of politics,

and the effects most likely to result from the prosecution of it : but although his advice was not adopted, I do not hence infer that the governing powers were censurable ; my intention in introducing these observations, is to elucidate Dr. FOTHERGILL'S political conduct respecting the contest between *Great-Britain* and *America*, and clear it from the misrepresentations of persons less intimately acquainted with him ; and this affords a sufficient apology for communicating to the public the following narrative of facts, stated from authentic papers that are now in my hands ; leaving to the decision of the public, whether Dr. FOTHERGILL did not act the part of a true patriot, and a real friend of the constitution.

In the latter end of the year 1774, previous to the departure of Dr. *Franklin* out of this kingdom, an intimate friend of Dr. FOTHERGILL being in company with a nobleman of great political experience, between whom the conversation turning on the critical situation of the *American* colonies,

nies,





Heath, sculpt.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

Il a ravi le feu des Cieux
 Il fait fleurir les Arts en des Climats sauvages
 L'Amerique le place à la tête des Sages
 La Grèce l'auroit mis au nombre de ses Dieux.

From a Medallion, in the possession of D^r Lettjöm.

nies, he pressed this gentleman to attempt a compromise with Dr. *Franklin*, before his intended departure ; and he accordingly undertook it, from a cordial wish to promote a permanent reconciliation between the two countries : on this account he immediately applied to Dr. FOTHERGILL, who heartily united in this undertaking ; and they mutually invited Dr. *Franklin* to a conference the same evening, and Dr. *Franklin* as readily accepted the invitation. This triumvirate, zealous for the welfare of both nations, devoted many hours to the important subjects of deliberation ; and, after much discussion, it was mutually agreed, that they should meet again on the succeeding evening, when Dr. *Franklin* should commit to paper such a conciliatory plan as he conceived *America* had a right to expect, and that the other two, as *Englishmen*, should then object to such claims as they might judge *Great-Britain* ought not to grant.

On the appointed evening, Dr. *Franklin* produced the following propositions (see A.) ;

A.); and those lines which appear in *Italics* were objected to by Dr. FOTHERGILL and his colleague, and which Dr. *Franklin* gave up, and suffered to be expunged.

In this state a copy was taken, and imparted for negociation; and the answer was that the propositions were such as appeared to demand too much; and in consequence several attempts were made to reconcile the subjects of contention: but as the 12th article of the propositions was insisted on by Dr. *Franklin*, though many of the others were acceded to; the negociation was broken off, and in a short time afterwards Dr. *Franklin* embarked for *America*.

The man of humanity, who reflects upon the fatal carnage of 100,000 victims of war, drawn from the loom, and from tillage; and withal the fruitless expenditure of one hundred millions of money, must unavoidably regret, that the laudable exertions of the physician and the patriot were thus unhappily frustrated. Seeing, however,
 though

though distantly, the impending danger, he persevered in the same line of conduct, and renewed his endeavours to stop the effusion of blood, and to reconcile the contending parties, as will appear by the following letter, marked (B), which he wrote in 1775 to a noble Lord.

In 1780, Dr *Franklin* wrote to Dr. FOTHERGILL's colleague the subsequent letter, marked (C), which I introduce to corroborate the above narrative.

In the preceding year Dr. FOTHERGILL published a pamphlet, entitled, "An English Freeholder's Address," which I have preserved in his Works: it contains sentiments further explanatory of his political character; sentiments that will ever be revered.

(A.)

HINTS for Conversation, upon the Subject
of Terms that may probably produce a
durable

durable Union between Great-Britain and her Colonies.*

1st. THE tea destroyed, to be paid for.

2d. The tea duty act to be repealed, and *all the duties that have been received upon it to be repaid into the treasuries of the several provinces from which it has been collected.*

3d. The acts of navigation to be all re-enacted in the several Colonies.

4th. A naval officer, appointed by the crown, to reside in each colony, to see that these acts are observed.

5th. All the acts restraining manufactures in the Colonies, to be re-considered.

6th. All duties arising on the acts for regulating trade with the Colonies, to be for the public use of the respective Colonies, and paid into their treasuries.

7th. The collectors and custom-house officers to be appointed by each governor,

* The Editor conceives the following propositions to contain all the grievances comprised in the petition of Congress to the King, brought over by Governor Penn in 1775.

and not sent from *England*; the present officers to be continued only during each governor's pleasure.

8th. In consideration of the *Americans* maintaining their own peace establishment, and of the monopoly *Britain* is to have of their commerce, no requisition to be made from them in time of peace.

9th. In time of war, on requisition made by the king, with consent of parliament, every colony shall raise money by some such rule or proportion as the following: viz. If *Britain*, on account of the war, pays as high as 3s. in the pound to its land-tax, then the Colonies to add to their last general provincial tax a sum equal to (suppose $\frac{1}{4}$) thereof; and if *Britain*, on the same account, pays 4s. in the pound, then the Colonies to add to their said tax a sum equal to (suppose $\frac{1}{2}$) thereof; which additional tax is to be granted to the king, and to be employed in raising and paying men for land or sea service, furnishing provisions, transports, or for such other purposes as the king shall require and direct: and though no colony may contribute less,

each may add as much by voluntary grant as they shall think proper.

10th. No troops to enter, and quarter in any colony, but with the consent of its legislature.

11th. *Castle William* to be restored to the province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

12. The late *Massachusetts* and *Quebec* acts to be repealed, and a free government granted to *Canada**.

13th. The extension of the act of *Henry VIII.* concerning treason, to the Colonies, to be formally disclaimed by parliament.

14th. The *American* Admiralty courts reduced to the same powers they have in *England*, and the acts relative to them to be re-enacted in *America*.

15th. All Judges in the king's colony governments to be appointed during good behaviour, the Colonies fixing ample and equally durable salaries : or if it is thought best that the king should still continue to appoint during pleasure, then the colony

* These acts include the *Boston* port bill ; the alteration of the charters of the *Massachusetts-Bay* ; and, the extension of the limits of *Canada*.

assemblies to grant salaries during their pleasure, as has always heretofore been the practice.

16th. The Governors also to be supported by voluntary grants of the assemblies, as heretofore.

17th. *All power of internal legislation in the Colonies, to be disclaimed by parliament.*

The following letter, which covered that above referred to, marked (B), evinces the pains Dr. FOTHERGILL took to prevent that disunion of the empire he had predicted and feared; and upon this account, short as it is, I insert it here: it was addressed, under cover, to his colleague in the transaction with Dr. *Franklin*.

“ DEAR FRIEND,

“ I CAME home last night at ten o'clock extremely fatigued. I could not forbear giving, perhaps, a very strong proof of it. If the enclosed remarks are worthy of the least notice, or any part of them, I wish we

could see one another this morning, any time before nine o'clock.

J. FOTHERGILL."

8th of the 10th mo. 1775.

(B.)

" The following sketch will shew rather my wishes than my hopes, of seeing the most certain, speedy, and honourable means of effecting the proposed measures.

" To send as speedily as possible some person or persons, on whom Government may rely, and who are not unknown to some of the leaders of the Congress, and on whose character and probity they may have some dependence, to propose to them,

" That an act shall be passed this session, virtually repealing all the blameable acts, by declaring that the Colonies shall be considered as being governed by the same laws, or placed in the same situation as they were in in the year 1762.

" That in consequence of this declaration, if accepted by the Congress, the same persons

persons shall have instructions to the commander in chief to cease all hostilities.

“ That a general amnesty shall be declared, all prisoners released, the provincial forces be disbanded, and the ports reciprocally opened for both countries.

“ That these preliminaries being fixed, instructions shall be sent to the several Governors, to convene the assemblies, and require them to choose two or more delegates, to meet a proper number of commissioners from *England*, at *New-York*, and there to settle the due limits of authority on this side, and submission on theirs. The sword will never settle it as it ought to be. Submission to force, will endure no longer than superior force commands submission ; —interest only can make it perpetual ; and it is the interest of *Britain* that the union should be perpetual, be the present sacrifice what it may.

“ The mode of proceeding in the union between *England* and *Scotland* may be adopted, so far as circumstances require ; that is, the different conditions of the contenders considered. The objects are in most respects

respects very different. From *Scotland* this country had chiefly in view negative advantages—that the *Scots* should not be any longer the tools of other powers, to work with to our undoing. From *America* we have every possible advantage to hope for; not only the benefits of commerce, but their power to protect us*. No power in *Europe*, who knows its interest, and has any possessions in the Western world, will choose to offend us, whilst we and *America* are united; because those possessions are immediately subject to the powers of *America*, directed by us:—what those powers are we now know full well by experience. Every distant possession of every power in *Europe*, is a pledge for the good behaviour of its owner to *Great-Britain*.—Is any object we

* “ Let it be considered, that *Scotland* is reputed to contain but about one million and a half of people—*America* almost three millions: that *Scotland* is not supposed to increase in population—*America*, by population, and emigrants from other countries, becomes double every twenty-five years:—therefore, that the present state of *America* claims something more than *Scotland* could claim at the Union, both in respect to numbers and future benefit.”

are now contending for, an equivalent to such an extensive and most certain influence?

“ It is therefore much to be wished that some such persons might be pitched upon, and sent out, rather in a private character, as friends to both countries, than with a public authoritative commission: for if those who are now invested in *America* with power, should *distrust* them, the business is at an end; and this country and that are left exposed to all the distresses, which are only beginning to be felt by both.

“ Administration may think it an easy matter to avert any storm which may arise from a discovery that they have been misled, misinformed, and grossly abused, by those on whose opinion they had too confidently relied.—This, however, may admit of some doubts; and I have too much regard for many of those who compose it, to wish the experiment may ever be made.

“ Let it be considered, that every provocation we give widens the breach; that the *Americans* have fully shewn they are the descendants of *Englishmen*; and if they

they are warm and impetuous like us, like us also they are placable; and instead of endeavouring to subdue them by force to a condition unworthy of our fellow-subjects, our countrymen, and our relations, let us open the shortest road to a speedy, honourable, and effectual reconciliation.

JOHN FOTHERGILL."

(C.)

*Copy of a LETTER from Dr. FRANKLIN
to * *, dated Passy, Feb. 12, 1781.*

" DEAR SIR,

" I CONDOLE with you most sincerely on the loss of our dear friend Dr. FOTHERGILL. I hope that some one that knew him well, will do justice to his memory, by an account of his life and character. He was a great doer of good. How much might have been done, and how much mischief prevented, if his, your, and my
joint

joint endeavours, in a CERTAIN MELANCHOLY AFFAIR, had been a little more attended to !!

With great respect and esteem,

I am, &c.

B. FRANKLIN."

A mutual friendship had early commenced between Dr. FOTHERGILL and Dr. *Franklin*, and continued to the death of the former. Dr. *Franklin*, to whom I am under obligations for many civilities formerly, has since augmented them by his late very obliging communications; and the following extract of a letter is so applicable to the subject of my narrative, that I shall insert his own words, as the most honourable and expressive testimony of regard for his deceased FOTHERGILL.

" Our late excellent friend was always
 " proposing something for the good of
 " mankind. You will find instances of
 " this kind in one of his letters, which I
 A a " enclose,

“ enclose*, the only one I can at present
 “ lay my hand on. I have some very va-
 “ luable ones in *America*, if they are not
 “ lost in the late confusions. Just before I
 “ left *England*, he, in conjunction with
 “ Mr. **, and myself, laboured hard to
 “ prevent the coming war, but our endea-
 “ vours were fruitless. This transaction
 “ is alluded to in the first page. If we
 “ may estimate the goodness of a man by
 “ his disposition to do good, and his con-
 “ stant endeavours and success in doing it,
 “ I can hardly conceive that a better man
 “ has ever existed†.”

Whilst he thus early disapproved those
 political measures which have since been
 generally reprobated as eventually ruinous

* In this letter Dr. FOTHERGILL introduces the sub-
 ject of this negotiation; and, among other pertinent
 reflections, he suggests the importance of an unifor-
 mity of weights and measures throughout the continent
 of *America*; taking it for granted, as he long foresaw,
 her independence. To make these more familiar, he
 recommends that they should be framed of numbers
 easily divisible, as 4, 8, 16, 32, &c.

† Letter to the Editor, dated *Paffy*, March 17, 1783.

to

to the empire, and long afterwards expressed his sentiments to a friend of his in *Yorkshire*, previous to the general assembly of the county, held on the 30th of *December* 1779, he uniformly mentioned his Sovereign in the most respectful language; it was not on men, but on measures, that he animadverted. *Henry Zouch*, of *Sandal*, in *Yorkshire*, a clergyman, and a justice of the peace, of distinguished reputation, was this intimate friend (and he was worthy of his confidence) to whom he addressed the following letter, which I am informed was read in a committee of the above meeting, and met with the most pointed approbation; which induces me to think that its insertion here will be acceptable to the reader.

“ THOUGH I am very apprehensive that the subject of this letter will be of very little consequence, yet I could not easily forego an opportunity of mentioning to thyself some sentiments that have occurred to me in respect to the very important meeting about to be held at *York*.

“ I know my voice is feeble and insignificant ; but being a native of the county, and having a great regard for it, on this and many other accounts, I think I ought not to be totally silent on so important an occasion, though I know there are so many persons will be present, who, in every respect but one, I acknowledge to be greatly indeed my superiors ;—that one is, a disinterested and impartial regard for the good of my native county, and the influence it will hold in the great national business that will come before you.

“ If the motions made for retrenchments in expence are to be the basis of your deliberations and petitions, I think them altogether unworthy ;—all that could be obtained in these retrenchments, either by savings to the public treasury, or abridging the power of the crown, are beneath the notice of such an assembly, even were you sure of obtaining all you have in contemplation.—I am morally certain you will obtain nothing : and every unsuccessful contest disheartens the vanquished, and
in

in proportion adds vigour to the conqueror.

“ Have we not seen this to be the case, in all the petitions and remonstrances that have been presented? and is it not most certain that the majority will be doubly firm against you, as their interest is so much at stake?

“ I consider these motions as well intended, and they may be followed by others equally æconomical and wise; but they will all be rejected, and those who have stood forth in their support be discouraged.

“ There is one necessary point, which I think you ought in the first place to state most clearly—the general decay of the county—and keep close to your own; manufactures declining, commerce languishing, value of land decaying, all public improvements at a stand, bankruptcies numerous, taxes increasing, multitudes distressed, and, was it not for the late favourable seasons, universal poverty and wretchedness
must

must have taken place. Pray, therefore, that peace may be restored between us and *America*, as the only means of saving your country from every species of calamity;—the war with that country, and its consequences, having been the general causes of these distresses.—I do not mean that these expressions should be used; you will find much better: but if you do not lay the axe to the root, in vain do you attempt the branches.

“ Let not a single reflection on the King or the ministry escape you—I mean not to appear in your petition. The acrimony that loaded the *American* petitions, and disgraced many of our own, have done unspeakable mischief; I beg therefore, and earnestly entreat, that every degree of invective may be shunned. Produce your facts, and state them in the clearest light; but if you mean well to your country, and wish to see an example followed in other counties, shun every thing offensive. As there is no great room for flattery, so neither give way to the reverse temper;—if you do, posterity
may

may load your memories with deserved reproach.

“ Forgive me for thus offering my sentiments to men much better informed than myself; but it is my firm opinion, from the knowledge I have of the temper of those who must be the judges of your petitions, that so sure as you deviate from a line of language, temperate yet firm, so sure will you shut a door more closely against all that you can urge;—and what must be the consequence? A perseverance in the same measures, to do despite to those who condemned them. Once more, therefore, let me entreat that every thing manifestly offensive in language may be studiously avoided; that no bagatelles may be asked for, but the removal of the great cause of expence—the war with *America*: the lesser arrangements of œconomy may then be solicited, and these only to take place at the decease of the present occupants.

“ Once more excuse me, if I am taking a liberty unbecoming me;—the honour of
our

our county, the good of the country in general, are at stake. If you ask for what is evidently great and right, your example will be followed by all; if you ask for things which you know beforehand will be refused, let your numbers be ever so great, you may possibly meet with many counter-petitions, and an attempt for general reformation be stifled in its infancy.

“ J. FOTHERGILL.”

London, 8th of the 10th mo. 1779.

With a natural attachment to his native country, strengthened by every tie of interest and connection, and confirmed by his writings and patriotic exertions, yet, in the philanthropy of his breast, his affections expanded beyond the confines of empire. The Christian Patriot, whilst he directs his views to one universal Parent, and contemplates his unlimited goodness, feels his regard extended to all his creatures; and in the individual enjoyment of blessings, he delights in their universality and reciprocity.—Man was formed to be happy; and
would

would be so, were the policy of nations directed to the communication of mutual benefits. In a small community it is ever found, that the happiness of individuals will be in proportion to the sum of happiness of the whole; and national felicity will be proportioned by a similar scale. No man has the power of increasing his own happiness, beyond the necessary and common enjoyments of life, by any other medium, than by that of benefiting his fellow-creatures; and the true policy of an individual might become the true policy of nations, were national policy subservient to reason and religion.

In this view, no language can be more impolitic and irrational, than that which inculcates the existence of the *natural* enmity of nations. We know that the wolf, impelled by hunger, becomes the *natural* enemy of weaker animals; but man, whose passions ought to be humanized in the school of Him who invariably recommended *Peace on earth*, can never become the *natural* foe of man. The different ha-

bits of nations, and the variety in their productions, naturally point him out as the friend of his own species ; and were religion of no avail, interest, one might imagine, would urge him to the communication of mutual benefits.

If we select an example, where habit has rendered the language of *natural enemy* familiar to national prejudice, even *France* might be united to us by interest and friendship, were we to encourage a mutual intercourse in trade, instead of interdicting it by the severest restraints. Whilst she takes off our Woollens, our Hard-ware, and other heavy articles of manufacture, we might receive in exchange her Laces, her Wines, and other articles, which the gaiety of the people, or the constitution of the soil, seem better adapted to produce. Mutual interest being thus created by nature, and established by the communication of mutual advantages, we should become *natural friends* ; at least, that enmity, to which so many thousands have been sacrificed, would no longer exist. — Thus I have heard Dr.

FOTHERGILL reason; and may his spirit descend upon the rulers of the earth!

The manufacture of our fine Laces, which is carried on with such sedulous industry in some parts of *England*, and particularly in *Buckinghamshire*, supports indeed many poor families; but the employment, instead of being ultimately beneficial, may really prove injurious, neither suiting the constitution of this country, nor the genius of the people: those engaged in it, as well as in the manufactory of gauzes, &c. as I am informed, already appear like another race of people; that vigour and strength which distinguished the labouring poor of this kingdom from those of every other, is dwindled into pallid debility. It is true, that women and children are chiefly occupied in these sedentary employments; but it is from these enervated females that the next generation is to spring!

Even in the contracted spirit of national policy, if we have any rivals or *natural enemies*, it cannot be true policy in us to rob

B b 2

them

them of those employments that debilitate the labourer, and consequently his offspring; but rather to encourage among them such sedentary manufactories, whilst in return they exchange our wrought iron, and other products of athletic industry, which at the same time conduce to preserve that health and vigour, upon which personal happiness and national strength so much depend.

When a man hath distinguished himself by extraordinary efforts of genius, and gained the summit of popular fame, we naturally wish to be acquainted, not only with the most interesting circumstances of his life and character, but even those which may be trifling in themselves, and which by no means would bear to be recorded, did they refer to persons of little fame; yet, when connected with a character that hath excited our admiration, or with works that we have contemplated with delight, they derive a kind of adventitious consequence from their relation, and are sought after with more avidity than greater matters of lesser men.

men*. This sentiment, doubtless, induced the writer † of “An Affectionate Tribute” to give the subsequent relation of Dr. FOTHERGILL’s dress, address, and manner of living; which I shall literally transcribe, for the information of such as never enjoyed his acquaintance.

“The person of Dr. FOTHERGILL was of a delicate, rather of an extenuated make; his features were all character; his eye had a peculiar brilliancy of expression, yet it was not easy so to mark the leading trait, as to disengage it from the united whole. He was remarkably active and alert, and, with a few exceptions, enjoyed a general good state of health.—He had a peculiarity of address and manner, resulting from person, education, and principle; but it was so perfectly accompanied by the most engaging attentions, that he was the genuine polite man, above all forms of breeding.—I knew him well, and never knew a man who left

* Monthly Review, vol. lxx. p. 443.

† The late Dr. *William Hird*.

such pleasing impressions on the minds of his patients.

“ His dress was remarkably neat, plain, and decent, peculiarly becoming himself; a perfect transcript of the order, and I may add, the neatness of his mind.—He thought it unworthy of a man of sense, and inconsistent with his character, to suffer himself to be led by the whim of fashion, and become the slave of its caprices.—But this impression upon his understanding was much strengthened by his firm attachment to his principles as a *Quaker*, which lead to that decent plainness and modesty in dress, which may be presumed to be one, at least, amongst the external evidences of a spirit elevated in its views above all transient and sublunary things.

“ At his meals he was remarkably temperate; in the opinion of some, rather too abstemious, eating sparingly, but with a good relish, and rarely exceeding two glasses of wine at dinner or supper: yet, by this uniform and steady temperance, he preserved
his

his mind vigorous and active, and his constitution equal to all his engagements *”.

Religion, working upon the heart, and subjecting the passions to the exercise of beneficence, generates all those attractive graces, which can be acquired by no other medium. Rules of exterior imitation may be delineated with the elegant pencil of a *Chesterfield*; but the purity of the heart is the genuine source of true politeness: for that religion, which breathes *good-will unto man*, whilst it refines the understanding, and softens the affections, begets that complacency from which necessarily result those amities, and that unaffected politeness, which alone should form the gentleman; such as the Scholar should cultivate, and the Christian recommend; and these rendered a FOTHERGILL beloved, respected, and illustrious.

But the time was approaching, when neither temperance nor virtue could exempt our valuable associate from the final lot of

* Page 27, 28.

humanity.

humanity. For a series of years, indeed for the most part of his life, he had enjoyed good health, and time seemed slowly to diminish the vigour of his body, or weaken the exertion of his mind; but it was perceptible to those who were much with him, and what he often remarked himself, that fatigue became less supportable, and recruit of strength, in his annual retreats into *Cheshire*, was of late years more slowly acquired. There are many causes, besides those resulting from advancing age, which diminish the constitutional vigour and vivacity of a feeling mind; his was sensibly awake to all the endearments of brotherly affinity: he had lost his youngest brother *Joseph*, and afterwards his brother *Samuel*, both of *Warrington*; the latter my paternal Guardian, by whom I was early introduced to the protection of the Physician: it was these relatives, and others in the vicinity, that first induced him to retreat to *Lea-Hall* in *Cheshire*, which is but a few miles distant from *Warrington*. These successive losses sensibly affected his mind, and retarded that constitutional

constitutional benefit, which he had formerly experienced. From this time many of his letters from the country testify the depth of his grief, and the irreparable chasm of enjoyment which he had thereby sustained :

*Quis desiderio sit pudor, aut modus
Tam chari capitis !——** HOR.

In 1772, some months after the decease of his brother *Samuel*, “ I have been
“ obliged,” he remarks from *Lea-Hall*,
“ to write many letters, which I am at
“ present very unfit for, or any thing else :
“ but I will not spend all in unavailing
“ complaints. I meet with many things
“ to put me in mind how much I have lost ;
“ and I feel such a void in my enjoyments
“ of this life, as reduces my wishes to a
“ great mediocrity indeed †.”

In a succeeding year he acquaints me,
“ that he came down to *Lea-Hall* much

* And who can grieve too much ? What time shall end
Our mourning for so dear a friend ? CREECH.

† Letter to the Editor, anno 1772.

C c “ oppressed :

“ oppressed : and now I am here,” he adds,
“ I have enough to do to command my-
“ self, when I recollect my brother, whose
“ countenance, counsel, and sympathy re-
“ lieved every anxiety, gave taste to every
“ enjoyment ; but I will try to banish
“ every thing, but a wish to follow him
“ through the remains of this life, with
“ submission to every difficulty, and grati-
“ tude for many many blessings*.”

I have the rather indulged these digres-
sions, as they recall to mind the virtues of my
deceased guardian, the want of whose coun-
sel, if Dr. FOTHERGILL, with a compre-
hensive understanding rarely to be equalled,
could so deeply lament, what must the
public have sustained when this god-like
man was no more ! for, if this sacred ap-
pellation may be applied to him who de-
votes his life to render mankind wiser and
happier, I have ample sanction for adopting
it on the present occasion ; and more par-
ticularly as he was so nearly connected with

* Letter to the Editor, anno 1774.

the immediate subject of my narration * :
 but the progress of solicitude upon the
 mind, which is not the result of remorse,
 is

* This pious man, a little before his death, addressed the following expressions to some of his relations, when they took leave of him, previous to their setting out for the Yearly-Meeting in *London*, anno 1772.

“ Our health is no more at our command, than
 “ length of days ;—mine seems drawing fast towards a
 “ conclusion, I think : but I am content with every
 “ allotment of Providence, for they are all in wis-
 “ dom—unerring wisdom. There is *One Thing* which,
 “ as an arm underneath, bears up and supports ; and
 “ though the rolling tempestuous billows surround, yet
 “ my head is kept above them, and my feet are firmly
 “ established.—Oh ! seek it—press after it—lay fast
 “ hold of it.

“ Though painful my nights and wearisome my
 “ days, yet I am preserved in patience and resigna-
 “ tion.—Death has no terrors, nor will the grave have
 “ any victory.—My soul triumphs over death, hell,
 “ and the grave.

“ Husbands and wives, parents and children, health
 “ and riches, must all go ;—disappointment is another
 “ name for them.

“ I should have been thankful, had I been able to
 “ have got to the ensuing Yearly-Meeting in *London*,
 “ which you are now going to attend, where I have
 “ been so often refreshed with my brethren ; but it is
 “ otherwise allotted.—The Lord knows best what is best
 “ for us ;—I am content, and resigned to his will.

is always flow, and rarely fatal ; and the disease under which Dr. FOTHERGILL finally suffered, was certainly independent of this source. It was about the middle of *November* 1778, that, on waking out of a short sleep, a forcible inclination to make water ensued, but without the power. For a day or two preceding, some heat, and an unusual difficulty had attended : at length a total suppression came on, that required manual assistance for upwards of two weeks, which was sometimes accompanied with excruciating pain, though no less than two hun-

“ I feel a foretaste of the joy which is to come ; and
 “ who would wish to change such a state of mind ?——
 “ I should be glad if an easy channel could be found,
 “ to inform the Yearly Meeting, that as I have lived,
 “ so I shall close, with the most unshaken assurance,
 “ that we have not followed cunningly-devised fables,
 “ but the pure, living, eternal substance.

“ Let the aged be strong, let the middle-aged be
 “ animated, and the youth encouraged ; for the Lord
 “ is with Sion, the Lord will bless Sion !

“ If I be now removed out of his church militant,
 “ where I have endeavoured in some measure to fill up
 “ my duty, I have an *evidence* that I shall gain an ad-
 “ mittance into his glorious church triumphant, far
 “ above the heavens.

“ My dear love to all them that love the Lord Jesus.”
 dred

dred drops of Thebaic tincture had been given in the space of a few hours, without much relief. In the height of his distress I visited him, and found him calm and recollected: he described with wonderful serenity of mind, his acute misery, expressing a pious and Christian resignation; and adding, “that if he had left any thing undone which he wished to have done, it was perfecting the plan of *Ackworth-School*; and likewise, the complete arrangement of the rules of our religious Society.” The first, I have already intimated, was an undertaking worthy of a great and illustrious sage; and the latter was equally arduous, though the difficulty could be known only to the Society interested in it: and he lived to accomplish his ardent wishes.

In the commencement of *December* of the same year, he was able to see his friends; and soon afterwards the importunities of the sick forced him again into his former arduous and active life, and for the space of two years he enjoyed his usual degree of health,

health, at least he rarely complained, and he certainly was equally occupied in the duties of his profession, and in numerous exertions for the benefit of individuals, and of the community ; for he never seemed so happy, as when he was rendering others so.

It was after this illness that he visited *Ackworth-School*, and endeavoured to perfect his plan, and perpetuate its advantages to posterity. He retired as usual, the latter end of the year, to *Lea-Hall*, and returned by *Buxton*, where he projected those improvements in that celebrated resort of invalids, already hinted at, and which, as I am informed, are now carrying into execution.

He likewise visited *Knareborough*, in *Yorkshire*, after many years absence, “ to pay,” as he, with filial piety, relates, “ the grateful tribute of a tear at the side “ of an honoured parent’s grave.—To see “ that his sepulchre was not laid waste to “ the beasts of the field, but secured from “ the ravages of neglect, was to us (himself “ and

“ and sister) a pleasing duty. Firmly per-
 “ suaded that we had not the least cause to
 “ mourn on his account ; and nothing left
 “ more becoming us, than to call to mind
 “ his precepts, and his example, we left the
 “ solitary spot, with hearts full of reverent
 “ thankfulness, that such was our father,
 “ and that we were so far favoured, as to be
 “ able to remember him with gratitude and
 “ affection *.

But the firmest constitution, like the
 most perfect elastic, may be extended be-
 yond the power of restoration. It was on
 the 12th day of *December* 1780, that he
 was again seized with a suppression of urine,
 which no art could remove. I saw him
 in a state of acute pain, which seemed al-
 most insupportable; he had strength enough
 to raise himself up in bed, but with such
 extreme thirst, that while he leaned on his
 right arm, he held in the left hand a glass
 of wine and water, to moderate the insatiable
 thirst, of which fluid he was obliged to sip
 after every sentence, in order to enable him

* Letter to the Editor.

to speak : he was then as serene as in perfect health : he endeavoured, indeed, to assume a degree of cheerfulness, which was natural to him when well, and described his complaints, and their probable fatal termination with a pious hope, “ that he had
“ not lived in vain, but in degree to answer the end of his creation, by sacrificing interested considerations, and his
“ own ease, to the good of his fellow-creatures.” Some individuals might have envied the universal esteem he acquired by his virtues, his manners, and his skill in healing ; and all may envy that comfort of mind which sustained him to his final dissolution, which was on the 26th day of *December 1780.*

A man so long, and so respectfully known, dying in the summit of celebrity, and surrounded with the caresses of a numerous acquaintance, must be deeply and universally regretted.

Acts of friendship to the deceased are animated, because they are disinterested, and
virtuous

virtuous minds are the most ardently disposed to fulfil them : but to prevent the inconveniences that were feared, and might result, from the crowd that purposed to assemble, to pay the last offices of esteem to his memory, had he been interred in *London*, it was judged advisable to carry his remains into the country ; which, on the 5th of *January* 1781, were deposited in the burial-ground of *Winchmore-Hill*, about seven miles from town : nevertheless, upwards of seventy coaches and chaises, filled with friends, attended upon this melancholy occasion. “ The tender remembrance of friendship yet lives in every breast ; we mourn without form ; we see and feel the void his fall has left, and which only time can mitigate, and a resignation to the dispensation of that Power, which orders all things with unerring wisdom and goodness, beyond our comprehension *.

—*Quis talia fando,*

Temperet à lachrymis ? †—

VIRG. *Æn.* lib. 2. v. 8.

* Dr. FOTHERGILL's *Life of Dr. Russell*.

† Who can relate such woes without a tear ?

TH E following letter, though addressed to the sister of Dr. FOTHERGILL, has such an immediate reference to the present subject of biography, that I have presumed to insert it here.—This affectionate tribute of the living physician, after an intimacy commencing in youth, and continued with unabated friendship to the latest period of Dr. FOTHERGILL's life, affords the most honourable testimony of the amiable character of the one, and of the tender and sympathetic feelings of the other; and must convey singular pleasure to every reader, who hath enjoyed that genuine friendship, which we trust doth not terminate with the grave.

“ Dear Mrs. FOTHERGILL,

“ I DO not fear to increase your grief by this early address, nor to recall to your memory the very afflicting dispensation
which

which you have lately experienced, as I am well convinced it has never once been absent from your mind since it happened ; but I can no longer defer to mingle my tears with your's, and most sincerely to condole with you on the signal loss which you have sustained. Your loss, it must be confessed, is incomparably the greatest ; but you are by no means the only sufferer—all his friends, his acquaintances, the public—all partake of it, and share it with you.

“ As to myself, I feel it deeply. Forty-seven years have now run their course since I had first the happiness of his acquaintance ; during which long tract of time we have maintained an uninterrupted, warm, mutual, and disinterested friendship. Often have I been benefited by his counsel and advice ; always happy and improved by his conversation and correspondence. The regard and kindness with which he distinguished me, hath been ever my pleasure and my boast. May the Almighty sanctify this severe affliction to you ! and may we all profit by so eminent an example ! Great as

your grief must be, you have every consolation that can alleviate a misfortune of this kind. No one lived a more innocent and a more useful life. No one was ever more beloved and respected while living ; none have died more universally regretted. I loved and esteemed him highly alive ; I shall ever respect his memory. Submission to the will of Heaven, we all know, is ever our duty under every afflicting dispensation. The reason is very plain ; of this our judgment is easily convinced : but the practice is not quite so easy. We cannot forget the pleasure we enjoyed in the possession of such blessings ; we look back with regret, and are deeply sensible of the present void. Natural affection will have its course, and it requires time to sooth the passions. Of all the taxes on humanity, this is the greatest.—Both on your own account, and from the near relation in which you stand to the respected deceased, I must ever interest myself cordially in your welfare. I am far from expecting, nay, I do not even wish, you to take any notice of this letter soon. The present state of your mind cannot
admit

admit of it : but hereafter, when time has mellowed your grief, and blunted the edge of your present poignant affliction, I will hope to hear, either from yourself, or by the hands of some of your friends, of your state of health and situation. I hope I need not say, that if in any respect I can be made useful to you, it will afford me a sensible pleasure. I commit you to the consolation and guidance of the Almighty; and remain, with sincere regard and esteem,

“ Dear Mrs. FOTHERGILL’S

“ Faithful and respectful friend,

“ W. CUMING.”

Dorchester, Jan. 10, 1781.

F I N I S.





Sharp sculp. 1785.
GUILIELMUS CUMING M.D.
Col. Reg. Med. Edinb. et
Soc. Antiq. utriusque Sod.

*Rien rechercher. — Rien rejeter;
Ne se plaindre de Personne.*



M E M O I R S

O F

WILLIAM CUMING, M. D. &c.



AFTER the death of Dr. FOTHERGILL, many of the letters that passed between him, and Dr. Cuming and Dr. Cleghorn, were committed to my care, and since that period I have been favoured with the frequent correspondence of the living physicians, who furnished me with many anecdotes of our deceased friend, which necessarily introduced some circumstances respecting themselves, and many more I have since learned from the answers they have returned to questions purposely asked.

From these sources I have gleaned the following Memoirs of the two earliest medical associates of Dr. FOTHERGILL, now living: and if I have been too hasty in communicating them, my solicitude to see these friends once more together is the only apology I can make to the survivors.

M E M O I R S, &c.

WILLIAM CUMING, the subject of the present sketch of biography, was born in the year 1714. *James Cuming*, an eminent merchant in *Edinburgh*, was his father; a man of very extensive dealings, of a pious and benevolent disposition, of strict probity and integrity, liberal, social, and hospitable, and greatly respected by people of all ranks who knew him, and he was very generally known. He married *Margaret*, the only daughter of *George Hepburn*, likewise a merchant in *Edinburgh*, a woman of exemplary temper and behaviour. They lived together for almost forty years in the greatest harmony; and during this union they had sixteen children, eight boys and as many girls. Of this number, three sons only arrived at man's estate; and of these, *William* was the youngest. He discovered an early fondness for books; and after some preliminary learning at a private

Latin school, he was sent, before his eighth year, to the High School at *Edinburgh*, and placed under the care of one of the masters, named *Wingate*, a man of liberal manners, and of an amiable disposition; and there he continued about five years. At the expiration of that time, when he was preparing to be entered at the university, his father was informed, that several young gentlemen, the sons of respectable families, with most of whom he was acquainted, were intended to be put under the tuition of *Alexander Moir*, a gentleman of great erudition, and primæval simplicity of manners: he had been one of the professors of philosophy in the university of *Aberdeen*; but having demitted this employment, he came to reside at *Edinburgh*, where he then kept a private Academy. With this little band, in which were included several young gentlemen of noble families, was *William* associated; and with them spent the four ensuing years, with great satisfaction and improvement, in the study of the learned languages, and other branches of academical knowledge.

Before

Before he reached his eighteenth year, he applied himself to the study of Physic at *Edinburgh*, and spent four years in that celebrated Lyceum, under the learned professors *Alston*, *Innes*, *Sinclair*, *Rutherford*, *Plummer*, and *Monro*.

Few circumstances in the juvenile occurrences of youth, have more influence on future life than the intimacies which are formed at such seminaries; unbiaſſed by restraint, the natural disposition is developed; and connections are formed upon a nearer ſimilarity of mind, than are uſual in ſucceeding, and more guarded periods of life.

To the aſſociates of young *Cuming*, already mentioned in the Life of Dr. FOTHERGILL, may be added the late Drs. *Whytt* and *Foulis* of *Edinburgh*; the late Dr. *Blair* of *Cork*, Dr. *Stedman*, now of *Edinburgh*, and Dr. *John Napier*, of *London*: ſuch a catalogue of ſtudents at one time iſſuing from the Schools of Phyſic at *Edinburgh*, is not often paralleled, and it may be farther augmented by the

names of the learned Dr. *Pitcairn* and the late ingenious Dr. *Armstrong*, to both of whom Dr. *Cuming* was known.

In the autumn of the year 1735, he went to *France*, and resided about nine months in *Paris*, visiting the hospitals, improving himself in Anatomy, by dissecting of bodies, and in acquiring a knowledge in the *French* language.

In 1736, in company with his friends *Whytt* and *Kennedy*, he visited most part of *Flanders*, in their way to *Leyden*.

Dr. *Cuming* remained at *Leyden* for some time, attending to the lectures of the venerable *Boerhaave*. In the month of *October* following, on hearing that his worthy father was in a declining state of health, he returned to *Edinburgh*; his intelligence proved too true; he did not survive his arrival above two months (three years before he had lost his mother).

He was deeply affected by the loss of his father, whom I have often known him
mention

mention with the most grateful recollection :
 “ he had given me,” he observes in one
 of his letters, “ a liberal education, with
 “ many salutary instructions for my con-
 “ duct in life ; he ever treated me with
 “ friendship and confidence, bequeathed
 “ me his own respectable example, and the
 “ reflected merit of his unblemished cha-
 “ racter. This was a noble patrimony, *Vir-*
 “ *tus parentum optima Dos*, says *Horace*
 “ with great truth, and of my father, I may
 “ say with him,

Ipse mihi custos incorruptissimus omnes
Circum Doctores aderat, quid multa? pu-
dicum

(Qui primus virtutis Honos) servavit ab omni
Non solum facto, verum opprobrio quoque
turpi.

Ob hoc nunc
Laus illi debetur, et a me Gratia major.
Si neque Avaritiam neque Sordes, nec mala
Lustra

Objiciet vere quisquam mihi,

Si et vivo carus Amicis
Causa fuit Pater his.

Here he resided about a year and half; but as the city of *Edinburgh* was at this time abundantly supplied with physicians of ample experience, and established characters; and considering his early time of life, and the faint prospect of being soon introduced into practice, this young physician visited *London* in the year 1738, with the design of watching an opportunity of a vacancy, to establish himself in one of the provincial towns of *England*. On his arrival at the capital, he immediately renewed his intimacy with the philanthropic FOTHERGILL.

During his stay in the metropolis, his manners and promising abilities had not escaped the notice of Dr. *Mead* (to whom he was introduced by the ingenious Dr. *Turnbull*, author of the History of Ancient Painting) who recommended him to supply the place of the late Sir *William Brown*, at *Lynn*. He was likewise well known to the late Dr. *James Douglas*, Dr. *Teffier*, and Dr. *Alexander Steuart*, &c. the latter of whom offered him his interest in conjunction with
that

that of a Mr. *Cooke*, a man of considerable fortune in that place, to fill a vacancy at *Norwich*; but while he was endeavouring to obtain an introduction to some of the principal families of that city and its neighbourhood, his friend FOTHERGILL having learnt that *Dorchester* at that time presented a promising situation for a physician, advised him to give it the preference, whither he accordingly went, and carried with him recommendations from some of the principal physicians in *London*.

In great cities, where a multiplicity of characters are daily presented, individuals are not so minutely discriminated; they are lost in the crowd, and merit may lie dormant, and long neglected; whilst ignorance, supported by assurance, meets with undeserved success: but in provincial towns, where individuals are more intimately known, character is sooner ascertained, and merit rewarded, as the metal and dross are more readily separated when the rays of light are concentrated than when diffused. Dr. *Cuming*, young as he was, and distinguished

guished by a diffident modesty, the silent attendant, rather than the herald of innate worth, soon gained the confidence of the inhabitants both of the town and neighbourhood, whilst his unaspiring mind possessed this happy reflection expressed in a letter written at this time to his friend FOTHERGILL: *Paucis contentus vivere didici, et pauca quæ mihi forte suppeditata erunt, dum nihil contra bonas mores moliar, et mente fruar quietâ, Divitiis, pravis artibus vel infano labore acquisitis, multum antepono.*

That this continued to be the settled state of his mind, I am fully convinced, from a circumstance with which I became acquainted by means of another of Dr. FOTHERGILL's letters; in which he offers the most affectionate and pressing invitation to *his Cuming*, to come to *London*, upon the death of Dr. *Russell*, that his abilities and practice might be exerted upon a more extensive scale, but which the living friend, as I have before mentioned, had the generosity and philosophy to decline, from motives of friendship and gratitude

to those families who had espoused his interest, and employed him at a time when he could not boast of that experience and knowledge in his profession which he possessed at the period I am now speaking of.

In the space of a few years after his establishment in *Dorchester*, he came to be employed in many, and in process of time, with an exception of three or four at most, in *all* the families of distinction within the county, and frequently in the adjacent ones. At length his chaste manners, his learning, and his probity, as they were more generally known, rendered him not only the physician, but the confidential friend of some of the best families into which he was introduced.

About twenty years ago a worthy and learned clergyman, *John Hutchins*, of *Wareham*, who after thirty years close application, had compiled a History of the County of *Dorset*, gave out proposals for its publication, but as he was a reserved man and but little known, they found not

the reception they merited ; a concurrence however of some accidental circumstances soon afterwards proved favourable to him, and he met with support from several gentlemen of fortune and distinction. To these Dr. *Cuming* gave his aid, and at a very numerous meeting of the first persons of the county, of rank and property, assembled at the summer assizes of 1770, it was agreed to encourage the publication, and so general was the Doctor's reputation, that he was unanimously requested to undertake the care of the publication. In this work his leisure hours during the four years next following were employed, and with the assistance of his ingenious and learned friend *Richard Gough*, of *Enfield*, Esq. author of the *Topographia Britannica*, it was offered to the public in the year 1774. That public gave it a very favourable reception, and it daily rises in value and reputation. The author in the conclusion of his preface, has very politely and gratefully acknowledged the obligations he was under to the Doctor and his worthy coadjutor. And here I cannot but regret that the Doctor,

who

who has been the means of many valuable performances being laid before the public, and some of them improved by his pen, had not himself stood forth to give that information for which he was well qualified, both in point of classical learning, and of elegant composition.

However the diffidence of Dr. *Cuming* might seclude him for some time from popular observation, as his acquaintance extended, he gradually acquired the observation and esteem of men of science, both at home and abroad. In the year 1752, he received a diploma from the university of *Edinburgh*, reciting in the preamble, *Qui apud Nos per plures Annos Medicinæ Studio Operam dedit, seque professoribus optime probavit*: and then follows, *adeundem quem Remis primum meruit in arte medicâ Gradum, Benevolentia et Honoris causâ, &c.* and he was soon after adopted a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of that city. In the year 1769, he was admitted a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in *London*; and in 1781, chosen without his

F f 2

knowledge,

knowledge, an honorary member of the Society of Antiquaries in *Scotland*.

Dr. *Cuming*, who is upwards of seventy years of age, is the only survivor of three sons. His eldest brother *James* was a merchant in *Edinburgh*, who in 1738 married a very amiable woman, *Katharine*, daughter of the honourable *William Erskine*, (third son to lord *Cardross*, his elder brother succeeding to the title of earl of *Buchan*) by whom he had several children, of whom *Charlotte Helen*, the only survivor, is now the wife of *Pelham Maitland*, Esq. of *Belmount*.

His second brother, *Alexander*, a very spirited, promising young man, went out to *China* in the year 1739, as first supercargo of the *Suecia*, in the service of the *Swedish East-India Company*: on her return home in the year 1740, the ship was unfortunately wrecked on the northernmost of the *Orkney-Islands*, and about thirty only of the common sailors were saved from the wreck.

The

The Doctor has happily enjoyed a good constitution, which he inherited from his parents ; the tenderness of his eyes has been through life the greatest misfortune that he has had to struggle with, and considering the many obstacles which the complaints in these organs have occasioned in the pursuit of knowledge, it is matter of wonder how he has attained that degree of erudition which he is well known to possess.

It is an observation made by the late Dr. *Johnson*, that whoever is disposed to retire from the busy pursuits of this world, the world as eagerly retires from him. Happily this is too severe a censure upon the virtue and discernment of mankind to be universally true ; and Dr. *Cuming* affords a pleasing instance that virtue and probity, whether glowing in the public walks of life, or calmly shining only in the private avenues of retirement, will ever be courted and admired. The surviving companions of his youth are still the friends and correspondents of his advanced years ; those
that

that remain, who consulted him professionally, still visit, and occasionally consult him ; and retired from active business as he is, and almost wholly confined within doors, he enjoys nevertheless the singular satisfaction not to be forgotten, but to be visited by persons the most respectable in the county, for probity, rank, and fortune.

Dr. *Cuming* was educated in the doctrine of the Church of *England* ; and in her form of worship he has uniformly persevered ; in the universality of his beneficence he is the friend of mankind.

In one of his affectionate letters, this amiable physician and friend, concludes an account of his health in the following animated language, which, happy would it be could every Christian adopt.—“ I have
“ now only to pray to the Supreme Dispo-
“ ser of all events, that he will be graciously
“ pleased to continue to me that serenity
“ and tranquillity of mind which I am
“ grateful to him for the enjoyment of,
“ and to grant me such a moderate share
“ of

“ of health as may enable me, during the
 “ residue of my days, to live with some com-
 “ fort to myself, free from bodily pain, and
 “ that I may be of some use to my fellow
 “ creatures.—When he shall call me hence,
 “ may I receive the summons with a cheer-
 “ ful resignation to his will, a becoming
 “ fortitude, and an humble confidence in
 “ his Mercy, through the Merits of my
 “ Redeemer!”

F I N I S,

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF
HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
CHARLES THE FIRST
BY
JAMES HALLAM, ESQ.
OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, ESQ.
IN PARLIAMENT
BY
JAMES HALLAM, ESQ.
OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, ESQ.
IN PARLIAMENT
BY
JAMES HALLAM, ESQ.
OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, ESQ.
IN PARLIAMENT

LONDON



GEORGIUS CLEGHORN, MD.
Engraved by Chas. Sherwin.
Anatom. in Acad. Dublin. P. & c.

Notus in Fratres animi paterni.

From an original Drawing in the possession of Dr Letts.




M E M O I R S

O F

GEORGE CLEGHORN, M. D.

Honorary Fellow of King's and Queen's College of Physicians, Professor of Anatomy in the University of *Dublin*, Member of the Academy for promoting Arts and Sciences in *Dublin*, and of the Royal Medical Society of *Paris*, &c. &c.



MEMOIRS, &c.

DR. CLEGHORN was born of reputable parents at *Granton* in the parish of *Cramond* near *Edinburgh*, on the 18th of *December* 1716. His father died in 1719, and left a widow and five children: *George*, who was the youngest son, received the rudiments of his education in the grammar-school of *Cramond*, and in 1728 was sent to *Edinburgh* to be further instructed in the *Latin*, *Greek*, and *French*; where, to a singular proficiency in these languages, he added a considerable stock of mathematical knowledge.

In the beginning of the year 1731, he resolved to study *Physic* and *Surgery*, and had the happiness of being placed under the tuition of the late *Dr. Alexander Monro*, a name that will be revered in that university, as long as science shall be cherished and cultivated.

This great professor, whose parental attention to pupils, and whose discernment in discriminating their genius, and encouraging its application, I have already mentioned, was esteemed by all, but most by those who were more immediately under his direction. It was the lot of young *Cleghorn* to live under his roof, and in one of his letters, which I have lately received, his pupil, who in another kingdom now sustains a similar character, and emulates the virtues of his deceased master, appears to dwell with peculiar pleasure upon this circumstance; observing that “his amiable manners and unremitting activity in promoting the public welfare, endeared him to all his acquaintance, but more particularly to those who lived under his roof, and had daily opportunities of admiring the sweetness of his conversation, and the invariable benignity of his disposition.”

For five years he continued to profit by the instruction and example of his excellent master; visiting patients in company with

with him, and assisting at the dissections in the Anatomical Theatre ; at the same time he attended in their turn the lectures in *Botany, Materia Medica, Chemistry*, and the *Theory and Practice of Medicine*, and by extraordinary diligence we are well informed, he attracted the notice of all his preceptors.

On Dr. FOTHERGILL's arrival from *England* at this celebrated university in the year 1733, Dr. *Cleghorn* was introduced to his acquaintance, and soon became his inseparable companion. These twin pupils, who have since distinguished themselves in the metropolis of each sister kingdom, then studied together the same branches of science, under the same masters, with equal ardour and success ; they frequently met to compare the notes they had collected from the professors, and to communicate their respective observations. Their moments of relaxation, if that time can be called relaxation which is devoted to social studies, were spent in a select society of fellow students, of which a FOTHERGILL and a *Russell*,

Russell, and the surviving *Cuming* were associates; a society since incorporated under the name of the Royal Medical Society of *Edinburgh*; and more particularly described in the preceding life.

Early in the year 1736, when young *Cleghorn* had scarcely entered into his twentieth year, so great had been his progress, and so high a character had he acquired, that at the recommendation of Dr. *St. Clair*, he was appointed surgeon in the twenty-second regiment of foot, then stationed in *Minorca*, under the command of General *St. Clair*.

During a residence of thirteen years in that island, whatever time could be spared from attending the duties of his station, he employed either in investigating the nature of epidemic diseases, or in gratifying the passion he early imbibed for Anatomy, frequently dissecting human bodies, and those of apes, which he procured from *Barbary*, and comparing their structure with the descriptions of *Galen* and *Vesalius*. In these pursuits

purfuits he was much affifted by his faithful correspondent Dr. FOTHERGILL, who, he acknowledges, was indefatigable in fearching the *London* fhops for fuch books as he wanted, and in forwarding them by the earlieft and beft opportunities.

In 1749 he left *Minorca*, and came to *Ireland* with the twenty-fecond regiment, and in autumn 1750 he went to *London*, and during his publication of the *Difeases of Minorca*, attended Dr. *Hunter's Anatomical Lectures*.

With a modefty which cannot be too much admired, Dr. *Cleghorn* ever appears to difclaim rather than to affume any merit from this important performance, obferving in a letter to me, that he “ here again
“ experienced the friendship of Dr. Fo-
“ THERGILL, who not only revifed my
“ manufcript, but corrected the fheets as
“ they came from the prefs; yet he would
“ not allow me publicly to acknowledge
“ his affiftance.”

It is pleasing to observe the liberality of conduct which actuated these contemporary writers, at the same time cultivating the same sciences : far from seeking to augment their respective reputations by claiming any adventitious merit, which one might take from the other, we see a dignity of sentiment and action solely directed to the reputation of the other, without any regard to elevate their own. *Cleghorn* after the decease of his FOTHERGILL, disclaims his own merit ; the latter in a letter to Dr. *Cuming*, generously exclaimed, “ Miraberis
 “ proculdubio *Cleghornii* nostri industriam ;
 “ in orbis etiam angulo situs majores facit
 “ progressus quam nostrorum quivis, qui-
 “ bus etiam nondefunt idonea studiorum
 “ adminicula. Alius itaque alium excite-
 “ mus, ut ejus insequamur vestigia, tanto-
 “ que viro digni evademus amici *.”

This eulogium, which I have extracted from the correspondence of the deceased friend, is peculiarly applicable to this prac-

* Life of Dr. FOTHERGILL, p. 104, which I have again introduced here.

tical work, which forms a just model for the imitation of future medical writers : it not only exhibits an accurate state of the air, but a minute detail of the vegetable productions of the island ; and concludes with medical observations, important in every point of view, and in some instances either new, or applied in a manner which preceding practitioners had not admitted. It is a modern practice, for the introduction of which we are much indebted to Dr. *Cleghorn*, to recommend acescent vegetables in low remittent and putrid fevers, and the early and copious exhibition of Bark, which had been interdicted from mistaken facts deduced from false theories.

In 1751 the doctor settled in *Dublin*, and in imitation of his two celebrated anatomical professors, *Monro* and *Hunter*, began to give annual courses of Anatomy, which have been continued without interruption ever since.

A few years after his coming to *Dublin*, he was admitted into the university as Lec-

turer in Anatomy. In the year 1784, the College of Physicians there, elected him an Honorary Member, and since that time, from Lecturer in Anatomy, he was made Professor, and had likewise the honour of being one of the original members of the *Irish* Academy for promoting Arts and Sciences, which is now established by royal authority. In 1777, when the Royal Medical Society was established at *Paris*, he was nominated a Fellow of it; and at present enjoys the favour and esteem of the public, and the correspondence of some of the most eminent physicians at home and abroad.

This amiable professor, in one of his valuable epistles, modestly concludes, “ my
“ greatest ambition is to be reputed a well-
“ meaning member of society, who wished
“ to be useful in his station; and who was
“ always of opinion, that honesty is the
“ best policy, and that a good name is
“ better than riches.”

In another letter to the same intimate friend,

friend*, written last year, he says, “ In the
 “ year 1772, increasing business and de-
 “ clining health obliged me to commit the
 “ chief care of my annual anatomical course
 “ for the instruction of students in Physic
 “ and Surgery to my favourite pupil Dr.
 “ *Purcell*, who has not only kept it up ever
 “ since, but improved it so as to advance
 “ its reputation and his own ; yet still I con-
 “ tinue to read, as I have done for upwards
 “ of twenty years, to a crowded audience,
 “ a short course of Lectures, the design of
 “ which is to give to *general* scholars a com-
 “ prehensive view of the animal kingdom,
 “ and to point out to them the conduct
 “ of nature, in forming their various tribes
 “ and fitting their several organs to their
 “ respective modes of life : this affords me
 “ an opportunity of exciting in my hearers
 “ an eager desire for anatomical knowledge,
 “ by shewing them a variety of elegant
 “ preparations, and of raising their minds
 “ from the creature to the Creator, whose
 “ power, wisdom, and goodness, is nowhere

* Dr. Cuming.

“ displayed to greater advantage, than in
 “ the formation of animals.”

About twelve years ago, on the death of his only brother in *Scotland*, he sent for his surviving family, consisting of the widow and nine children, and settled them in *Dublin*, under his own eye, that he might have it more in his power to afford them that protection and assistance which they might stand in need of. His elder nephew *William** he educated in the medical profession; but after giving him the best education which *Europe* could afford, and getting him joined with himself in the lectureship, the doctor's pleasing hopes were most unfortunately frustrated by the young gentleman's death, which happened about two years ago.—He died universally and sincerely regretted by all who knew

* This amiable young man, on taking his degree of Doctor in Physic at *Edinburgh* in the year 1779, wrote and published a very ingenious inaugural Dissertation, entitled, *Theoream Ignis complectens*, which did him much honour, and gave great hopes of his making a considerable figure in his profession.

him,

him, on account of his uncommon abilities and most amiable disposition.

Dr. *Cleghorn*, with an acquired independence, devotes his moments of leisure from the severer studies of his profession to farming and horticulture.

*Parva Seges satis est: Satis est requiescere
tecto,
Si licet, et solito membra levare toro*.*

But his attention to this employment does not lessen his care of his relations, who from a grateful and affectionate regard look up to him as a parent, the duties of which station he most tenderly fills up: this induced me to apply to him the words of *Horace*,

Notus in fratres animi paterni.

* A little farm be mine, a cottage neat,
And wonted couch, where balmy sleep may fall.

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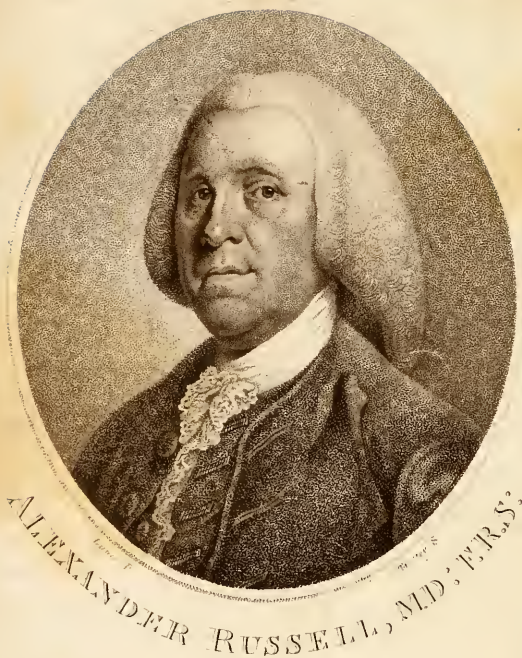
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Imocuas placide Corpus jubet urere Flammis,
Et justo rapidos temperat Igne Focos.
Extorsit Lachesi Cultros pestique Venenum,
Abstulit, et tantos non Sinit esse Metus.



M E M O I R S

O F

ALEXANDER RUSSELL, M. D.



MEMOIRS, &c.

AN essay on the character of Dr. *Russell* was written by Dr. FOTHERGILL in the year 1770, of which I shall avail myself in the following relation.

The father of the physician, *John Russell*, Esq. of *Edinburgh*, was blessed with many children, all boys, and enjoyed the singular happiness of bringing up seven of them to man's estate, without ever inflicting chastisement, or even using a harsh expression, and yet preserved a more perfect obedience in them than can be produced by any bodily pain. This worthy man, though he lived to the age of eighty-six, was to the last attended, whenever he pleased (which was almost all day long) with chearful company of both sexes, and

of all ages ; retained his faculties and amiable temper, and preserved his chearfulness and spirits to the last.

This venerable parent was a gentleman of great eminence as a lawyer in the city of *Edinburgh*, whose liberal treatment of his children was amply repaid by their behaviour to him, never affording him cause of a moment's disquietude, but on the contrary, by the just reputation they acquired, made all good men rejoice that he had such a family, eminently distinguished by so many good qualities.

Alexander Ruffell, the subject of the present narrative, the third son of this excellent father, was early devoted to medicine. Having gone through his grammatical studies in the High School at *Edinburgh*, and spent two years afterwards in the university, he was placed with his uncle *Francis*, who was then one of the most eminent practitioners in the city, in order to acquire the knowledge of the first rudiments of Medicine. In the years 1732, 3, and 4, he

he continued his medical studies under the professors *Monro, Sinclair, Rutherford, Innes, Plummer, and Alston*, who at that time so ably filled the several chairs of Physic in the university of *Edinburgh*, and laid the foundation of that character which ranks it in public esteem superior to most others in *Europe*.

Several students at this time, the foremost in application and in knowledge, fired by the example of their masters, who had nothing more at heart than the improvement of those who committed themselves to their tuition, formed a society for their mutual instruction and advancement in their studies.

Of this association, instituted in the autumn of the year 1734, Dr. *Russell* was one of the first members, together with Dr. *Cuming* of *Dorchester* and Dr. *Cleg-horn* of *Dublin*, with a few others, who, though now removed, did honour in their stations to this institution, of which a par-

ticular history has been already communicated *.

After Dr. *Russell* had finished his studies in the university, though without applying for a degree at that time, he visited *London*, in the year 1735, and soon after went to *Turkey*, and settled about the year 1740 at *Aleppo*, in the practice of Physic, at the unanimous request of the gentlemen of the *English* factory in that city. Of his conduct here, and character among the inhabitants, Dr. FOTHERGILL gives the following relation.

“ Dr. *Russell* applied himself assiduously to gain a knowledge of the language of the country, and to become acquainted with the ablest of the numerous practitioners in the place, who were employed among the inhabitants. He succeeded in both : he soon discovered the incapacity of these ; a few traditional receipts composed the whole furniture of most of them ; he found a few, however, capable of infor-

* Page 142 in the Memoirs of Dr. FOTHERGILL.

mation, and assisted them to the utmost of his power.

“ He was soon applied to by the inhabitants of *Aleppo*, of all ranks and professions ; *Franks, Greeks, Armenians, Maronites, Jews, &c.* and even by the *Turks* themselves: in this instance they forgot that he was an unbeliever, remitted of their usual contempt for strangers, and not only beheld him with respect, but courted his friendship, and placed unlimited confidence in his opinion. The *Pascha* himself became acquainted with the merit of this amiable physician, consulted him, called him his friend, found him upright, sensible, and sincere ; as a man, polite without flattery, decent, but not servile ; as a Christian, true to his principles ; disinterested and generous as a *Briton* ; and in point of skill as a Physician, superior to every one. A natural, even, cool, and consistent temper ; a freedom of behaviour as remote from confidence as constraint, improved by reading and conversation ; a mind imbued with just reverence to God, and impressed
with

with a sense of the duty we owe ; an understanding fraught with the principles of the profession to which he had been early devoted (the practice of Physic) happily blended with great benevolence ; was a character seldom to be met with in the *Asiatic* regions : this, however, was the portrait of Dr. *Russell*, when delineated with equal truth and justice.

“ The factory thought themselves happy in such a Physician, such a companion, such a countryman. His close and intimate connection with the Pascha enabled him to render to the factory the most important services ; and indeed all the *European* nations, trading at that place, were repeatedly obliged to his interposition, on a multitude of occasions.

“ Seldom would the Pascha determine any intricate affair, respecting not only commerce, but even the interior police of his government, without first consulting his physician and his friend ; and as seldom deviated

deviated from the opinion he proposed : and such was the Pascha's respect for so rare a character, and such his friendship and determined resolution to do him honour, that he even chose to oblige the people in the Doctor's presence, and seldom punished any criminal but in the Doctor's absence ; that the people might learn to think it was owing to his interposition, that examples of severity were not more frequently inflicted *.

“ Many

* “ With regard to criminals, this behaviour of the Pascha was very remarkable and polite ; for, when mitigating circumstances occurred in favour of criminals, to induce the Pascha to spare them, he often dismissed them, with a caution to behave better in time to come ; for they were so bad, that none of their own countrymen durst speak to them ; but that they owed their lives to the *English* Doctor : though he sometimes before had retired, to make way for the necessary severities of justice, and knew nothing of the matter till the poor unhappy wretches came to his house, to fling themselves at his feet, and with true gratitude thank him for their lives : and, indeed, sometimes the Pascha went so far as to tell the criminals, that, in his opinion, they certainly deserved Death, but that he durst not order it, for the *English* Doctor insisted on Mercy. It is rare to find any ruler making so great a sacrifice

“ Many princely presents were the consequence of this esteem : the Pascha did not even forget the Doctor’s father, *to whom*, said he, *I am obliged for your assistance*. He ordered presents to be sent to the worthy old man : what joy must this excite in an aged parent’s heart, to have such authentic proofs of the merit of his son from so distant a clime, and where the merit must be great to gain such a testimony !— I leave the History of *Aleppo* to speak its

sacrifice of his popularity to a stranger, or in so polite a manner, to transfer it to any body.—Besides this Pascha, who ruled a long time, the others that came after him had the greatest confidence in the Doctor, and intimacy with him ; particularly one Pascha of this place, an old man, who had ruled the empire as Grand Vizier, and died at *Aleppo*, intrusted him with the whole secrets of his family, and depended on his advice.

“ The Doctor’s fame was perhaps more general over the *Turkish* empire, than any physician’s is in *Europe* ; well known at court, and in every province, he escaped more than once the disagreeable circumstance of being sent for to the Grand Seignior in time of the plague. His brother was, in most of the trading towns in *Turkey*, found out by bearing the same name, and offered great civilities ; and once at *Constantinople*, when a slight plague happened there, was oppressed with invitations to visit several great men, which with difficulty he avoided. W. R.”

author’s

author's abilities.—It has been already translated into other languages, and it will be justly esteemed one of the most important productions in medicine, should ever that fatal scourge, the Plague, be permitted to come amongst us.

“ From his thorough knowledge of the Pestilence, and the means successfully made use of to prevent infection, in the countries most exposed to this fatal disease, he formed a design of exciting the greatest commercial nation in the world to provide some more effectual means than hitherto it had done, in order to prevent it from again becoming the dreadful theatre of pestilential contagion.—With this view, in his return from *Turkey*, he visited the most famous Lazarettos, to which he could have access, inquired into their structure, the government they were under, and took an account of all the precautions they used for preservation.

“ At *Naples*, *Leghorn*, and other places, he had all the opportunities of observa-

tion he could wish for ; and profited by them to such a degree, as to be better acquainted with the conduct of the wisest states, in respect to the means of prevention, than perhaps any other person ; indeed, his acquaintance with this subject, and his experience, induced him to make himself master of every thing appertaining to preservation from one of the greatest of all human calamities.

“ And so generally was his extensive knowledge of this distemper established, that in the latter-end of the year 1757, when our ministry was alarmed with the report of its being broke out at *Lisbon*, and earnestly solicitous to take every precaution to prevent its being imported into this kingdom, they thought no person so fit to be consulted on the means proper to be pursued, as the doctor. Having received orders to attend the Privy-Council, he came, and gave such pertinent and satisfactory answers to the questions proposed, that he was desired to communicate his information, and the method he proposed to prevent

prevent the spreading of that calamity, in writing. This he accordingly did; and should it please the Almighty hereafter to threaten this nation with that dreadful scourge, the prosecution of the plans then suggested may perhaps greatly contribute to avert from us the most terrible of all diseases.

“ From the time he left *England*, to his return in *February* 1755, we had maintained a regular correspondence. I could not forbear mentioning to him repeatedly, how acceptable a more accurate account of *Aleppo* would be to this nation, and to all *Europe*; that no person would probably ever stand a chance of succeeding in it so happily as himself; that his long residence there, his knowledge of the language, the manners, customs, diseases of the place, the great credit he had acquired amongst all ranks, by an able, diligent, and disinterested exertion of his faculties amongst them, his influence over the *Pascha*, and the respect paid him by the *Turks* themselves, would facilitate every inquiry. He

viewed the propofal in the fame light, collected materials, made fuitable inquiries, and has erected a lafting and honourable monument to his memory.

“ With no fmall trouble he fucceeded in procuring us the feeds of the *true scammony*. They were raifed by my two botanical friends, the late *Peter Collinſon*, and the indefatigable *James Gordon*. Seeds were likewiſe ſent over to the ſouthern colonies of *America*, in hopes that in a ſimilar ſoil and latitude, in ſome future time, we might from thence have this valuable drug unadulterated*.

“ To

* The late Conſul *Sherrard*, who reſided long at *Aleppo*, and was one of the moſt eminent botaniſts of his time, endeavoured long and fruitleſſly to obtain the feeds of this and ſome other curious plants. The *Arabs*, who are the people chiefly employed in theſe affairs, not ſo much through ignorance as knaviſhneſs, will bring every kind of feed but the right, and aſſert that it is the feed required. Dr. *Ruffell* aſſured me, that he had near twenty different feeds brought to him for the feeds of the true Scammony, by different perſons employed to procure it him, with promiſes of a ſuitable reward. Amongſt theſe found, there were two parcels of feeds alike, which
corresponding

“ To him, likewise, we are indebted for a plant, that will hereafter be one of the greatest ornaments of our gardens *; as well as for many useful intimations, both in respect to his own profession, as to commerce in general.

“ He chose this city for his residence at his return to *England*, and soon had a considerable share of employment. A vacancy happening in *St. Thomas's* hospital, about the beginning of the year 1759, he was chosen Physician, and continued in this station to the time of his death, an example of diligence and humanity to the sick,

corresponding to the general character, he judged were the right; and these he sent over to *England*. Many plants were raised from them, and some are yet in the gardens of a few botanists in the neighbourhood of *London*.

Dr. *Russell* published an exact description of the *Scammony*, and the method of collecting its juice, in the first volume of the *Medical Observations*.

* The *Andrachne*, nearly approaching to the *Arbutus*, which it surpasses in elegance. An exact description of this plant was given in the *Transactions*, by that great botanist and excellent painter, the late *G. D. Ehret*.

of great medical abilities as a physician, and as a gentleman irreproachable. The Royal Society, of which he was many years a worthy member, the Medical Society *, likewise, who early admitted him amongst them, are obliged to Dr. *Russell*, and the public through them, for many valuable communications ; his extensive practice at *Aleppo*, his early introduction into business here after his arrival, the multitude of objects under his care in the hospital, supplied a fund of medical experience, which might have yielded much benefit to society, had his life been protracted."

It was at this hospital that I was first introduced to the acquaintance of this amiable Physician, in consequence of my attendance as a pupil, from the recom-

* *Medical Society.* About the year 1752, several physicians in *London*, chiefly of those called Licentiates, agreed to form themselves into a society, for collecting and publishing all such observations and inquiries in medicine, that seemed to deserve the public notice. This society has subsisted ever since, has published several volumes, which have been well received, and will be followed by others.

mendation

mendation of Dr. FOTHERGILL, who entertained the highest opinion of his medical abilities, and consulted him as often as occasions of indisposition demanded medical aid.

At the period of my introduction to Dr. *Russell*, I could not be a competent judge of professional abilities, nor could my opinion add any important weight to that of Dr. FOTHERGILL'S : of his stability in practice and successful treatment of disease, I could see sufficient to admire the physician, while his humanity to the miserable tenants of a sick ward, endeared him to me as a man. The reputation of the hospital had concentrated students from every part of the kingdom, amongst whom one sentiment only prevailed, respecting Dr. *Russell*, for his condescension to all ; and his liberal communications made him equally beloved and respected.

These seminaries of disease, highly useful as they are to the youth who frequent them, might be rendered still more so, by
a more

a more sedulous attention to the practical knowledge they afford. It was my constant plan during some years that I was at St. *Thomas's* hospital, besides the usual routine of accompanying the physicians and surgeons, to visit the patients again in the afternoon, in order to inquire into the causes of their diseases, and the progress of them, more minutely than could be done in the croud of attendance with the physicians, whose experience enabled them to discriminate symptoms with a perspicuity and arrangement which no pupil could have acquired. Of the more striking cases I took notes, and kept daily reports of the symptoms, progress, and termination of the diseases, including the remedies, and their apparent effects. The advantages resulting from such a conduct are innumerable: it gives an ease and firmness of behaviour in a sick chamber; it impresses the mind with a clearer conception of diseases, and of the application of remedies; for he that finds out an intricate path by the exertion of his own powers, will more readily know it again than if he were shewn it
by

by another. Above all, it humanizes the mind, by bringing it acquainted with the feelings and distresses of the sick ; and he that acquires early in life a sympathy for the miseries of his fellow-creatures in distress, will ever be excited to relieve them, and he that attempts, will effect. Solitude of mind, is not the attendant of poverty alone ; it is the lot of humanity, and is as prevalent on the bed of down as in the cottage : it is perhaps more frequent, and where it prevails it is always more poignant.—Of all things therefore, inhumanity is the greatest undress of a physician, and whilst its injury extends to the patient, it robs the physician of the richest feelings of the human heart,

This sentiment was excited in recalling to mind the endearing qualities of Dr. *Russell*, who was not only beloved by his pupils, but respected by his acquaintance. When I add that Dr. FOTHERGILL entertained the most favourable opinion of his moral rectitude and medical skill, a further panegyric cannot be wanted: that he loved

Dr. *Russell* with singular friendship, the *Essay on his Character*, wrote by the former in 1769, fully demonstrates; I was at the College of *Edinburgh* when this elegant eulogist lost his friend, and knowing how much I was interested in the general loss on which he tenderly expatiates, he concludes by informing me “ That he was
 “ seized with a *putrid fever*, which, not-
 “ withstanding the utmost endeavours of
 “ Dr. *Pitcairn* and myself, to preserve the
 “ life of a friend we loved, carried him
 “ off on the ninth day, universally regret-
 “ ted. *”

In a letter to his amiable and learned friend, Dr. *Cuming* (who was a contemporary student with Dr. *Russell*, and from that early period a constant correspondence was maintained between them to the time of Dr. *Russell*'s death) the eulogist, whose merit in turn, but with unequal powers, I have attempted to commemorate, gives his motives for paying this tribute to the character of his departed friend, and says

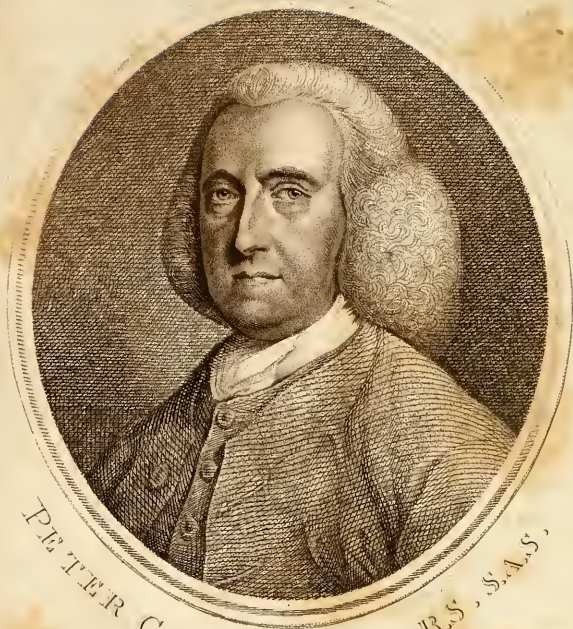
* Letter to the Editor, dated *December 2*, 1768.

that,

that, “ the cordial, firm regard for the
 “ friend, the companion, and the phy-
 “ sician, did what it could to record his
 “ worth. Let us,” he adds, “ preserve the
 “ memory of the deserving: perhaps it
 “ may prompt others likewise to deserve.
 “ The human mind requires every excite-
 “ ment to prompt it to look up to its ori-
 “ ginal; to think it is not made for this
 “ world only; its existence is immortal,
 “ and its destiny in immortality depends
 “ on its acting right or wrong. Great is
 “ the prize, and worth contending for;
 “ worth exciting our friends to contend
 “ for it.*”

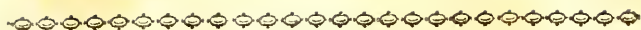
* Dated *December 8, 1769.*

F I N I S.



PETER COLLINSON, F.R.S., S.A.S.,

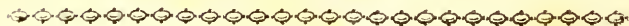
*Hinc, quae Natura negabat
Vires Humanis Oculis ea Retorvis hauriit.
Cumque Animo, et vigili prospexerat omnia Circa,
In medium discenda dabit.*



M E M O I R S

O F

PETER COLLINSON, F.R.S. & F.S.A.



M E M O I R S, &c.

IN the year 1770 was printed “ *Some Account of the late Peter Collinſon, Fellow of the Royal Society, and of the Society of Antiquaries in London; and of the Societies of Berlin and Upſal. In a Letter to a Friend.*” For which I am informed the public is much indebted to *Michael Collinſon, Eſq.* the only ſon of this excellent man (whoſe character I now commemorate) who greatly contributed to the arrangement of thoſe materials of which I avail myſelf in the following Memoirs.

The family of the *Collinſons* is of ancient ſtanding in the North: *Peter* and *James* were the great grandſons of *Peter Collinſon*, who lived on his paternal eſtate called *Hugal-Hall*, or *Height of Hugal*, near
Windermere-

Windermere-Lake, in the parish of *Stavely*, about ten miles from *Kendal* in *Westmoreland*. *Peter*, whilst a youth, discovered his attachment to natural history. He began early to make a collection of dried specimens of plants, and had access to the best gardens at that time in the neighbourhood of *London*, having early become acquainted with the most eminent naturalists of his time: the Doctors *Derham*, *Woodward*, *Dale*, *Lloyd*, and *Sloane*, were amongst his friends. Of the great variety of articles which form that superb collection, now (by the wise disposition of Sir *Hans* and the munificence of parliament) *The British Museum*, small was the number of those with whose history *Peter Collinson* was not well acquainted; he being one of the few who visited Sir *Hans* at all times familiarly; their inclinations and pursuits in respect to natural history being the same, a firm friendship had early been established between them.

Peter Collinson was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society on the 12th of *December*

cember 1728 ; and perhaps was one of the most diligent and useful of its members, not only in supplying the Society with many curious observations himself, but in promoting and preserving a most extensive correspondence with learned and ingenious foreigners, in all countries, and on every useful subject. Besides his attention to natural history, he minuted every striking hint that occurred either in reading or conversation ; and from this source he derived much information, as there were very few men of learning and ingenuity, who were not of his acquaintance at home ; and most foreigners of eminence in natural history, or in arts and sciences, were recommended to his notice and friendship. His diligence and œconomy of time was such, that though he never appeared to be in a hurry, he maintained an extensive correspondence with great punctuality ; acquainting the learned and ingenious in distant parts of the globe, with the discoveries and improvements in natural history in this country ; and receiving the like information from the most eminent persons in almost

every other. His correspondence with the ingenious *Cadwallader Colden*, Esq. of *New-York*, and the justly celebrated *Dr. Franklin*, of *Philadelphia*, furnish instances of the benefit resulting from his attention to all improvements*. The latter of these gentlemen

* “ In 1730, a subscription-library being set on foot at
 “ *Philadelphia*, he encouraged the design by making several very valuable presents to it, and procuring others
 “ from his friends: and as the library-company had a considerable sum arising annually to be laid out in books,
 “ and needed a judicious friend in *London* to transact the
 “ business for them, he voluntarily and cheerfully undertook that service, and executed it for more than thirty
 “ years successively; assisting in the choice of books,
 “ and taking the whole care of collecting and shipping
 “ them, without ever charging or accepting any consideration for his trouble. The success of this library
 “ (greatly owing to his kind countenance and good advice)
 “ encouraged the erecting others in different places on
 “ the same plan: and it is supposed there are now upwards of thirty subsisting in the several colonies, which
 “ have contributed greatly to the spreading of useful
 “ knowledge in that part of the world; the books he
 “ recommended being all of that kind, and the catalogue
 “ of this first library being much respected and followed
 “ by those libraries that succeeded. During the same
 “ time he transmitted to the directors of the library the
 “ earliest accounts of every new *European* improvement
 “ in agriculture and the arts, and every philosophical
 “ discovery;

tlemen communicated his first essays on *Electricity* to *Peter Collinson*, in a series of letters, which were then published, and have been reprinted in a late edition of the Doctor's ingenious discoveries and improvements. Perhaps, in some future period, the account procured of the management of sheep in *Spain*, published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for *May* and *June*, 1764, may not be considered among the least of the benefits accruing from his extensive and inquisitive correspondence.

In conversation *Peter Collinson* was chearful and usefully entertaining; which rendered his acquaintance much desired by those who had a relish for natural history, or were curious in cultivating rural improvements, and secured him the intimate friendship of some of the most eminent personages of this kingdom, as dis-

“ discovery; among which, in 1745, he sent over an
 “ account of the new *German* experiments in electricity,
 “ together with a glass tube, and some directions for
 “ using it, so as to repeat those experiments.” *Letter*
from B. Franklin to Michael Collinson, Esq.

tinguished by their taste in planting or Horticulture, as by their rank and dignity *.

He was the first who introduced the great variety of seeds and shrubs, which are now the principal ornaments of every garden; and it was owing to his indefatigable industry, that so many persons of the first distinction are now enabled to behold groves transplanted from the Western continent flourishing so luxuriantly in their several domains, as if they were already

* Among other respectable characters with whom he enjoyed an intimate acquaintance, we may include that generous patron of science the Earl of *Bute*, with the Dukes of *Richmond* and *Northumberland*; and with that great luminary of the law, the Earl of *Mansfield*, he lived in habits of sincere and reciprocal regard.

The late Dutchess of *Portland* numbered him among her select intimates; and no one was more condescending in esteem for him than the amiable Lord *Clarendon*: to these may be added the late Dukes of *Richmond* and *Portland*, noblemen who acquired more estimation from their virtues than from their titles.

With the late Earl of *Jersey*, and *Henry*, Lord *Holland*, he was also cordially united by all the ties of a long cemented, ardent, and mutual friendship.

become

become indigenous to *Britain*. He had some correspondents in almost every nation in *Europe*; some in *Asia*, and even at *Pe-kin*; who all transmitted to him the most valuable seeds they could collect, in return for the treasures of *America*. The great *Linnaeus*, during his residence in *England*, contracted an intimate friendship with *Peter Collinson*, which was reciprocally increased by a multitude of good offices, and continued to the last. Besides his attachment to natural history, he was very conversant in the antiquities of our own country, having been elected a member of the Society of Antiquaries *April 7, 1737*; and he supplied them often with many curious articles of intelligence and observations, respecting both our own and other countries. In person *Peter Collinson* was rather short than tall; he had a pleasing and social aspect; of a temper open and communicative, capable of feeling for distress, and ready to relieve and sympathize. Excepting some attacks of the Gout, he enjoyed, in general, perfect health, and great equality of spirits, and had arrived at his seventy-fifth

fifth year ; when, being on a visit to Lord *Petre*, for whom he had a singular regard, he was seized with a total suppression of urine, which baffling every attempt to relieve it, proved fatal on the 11th of *August*, 1768.

A

List of *Peter Collinson's* Communications,

Published in the *Philosophical Transactions*.

Vol.

43. p. 37-9. **S**OME Observations on the Hardness
of Shells, and on the Food of the
Sole-Fish. Read *May 15, 1744*.
- p. 363-6. An Account of some very curious Wasps
Nests, made of Clay, in *Pensyl-*
vania. *April 25, 1745*.
44. p. 7. A Note concerning the Infection of the
Distemper among the Cows.
- p. 70-4. Some Observations on the *Cancer major*.
February 10, 1745-6.
- p. 451-4. Some Observations on the Balluga-Stone.
March 12, 1746-7.
- p. 456-7. An Observation of an uncommon Gleam
of Light proceeding from the Sun.
March 19, 1746-7.
- p. 329-33. Some Observations on a Sort of *Lifella*,
or Ephemeron. *Jan. 31, 1744-5*.
47. p. 40-2. Some farther Observations on the *Can-*
cercer major, communicated in a Let-
ter to Mr. Klein, Secretary of *Dant-*
zick. *January 1, 1750*.
- Vol

Vol.

51. p. 459-64. A Letter to the Honourable *J. T. Klein*,
Secretary to the City of *Dantzick*,
concerning the Migration of Swal-
lows. *March 9, 1758.*
54. p. 65-8. Some Observations on the *Cycada* of
North-America. *Feb. 23, 1764.*
57. p. 464-7. An Account of some very large Fossil
Teeth, found in *North-America.*
November 26, 1767.
- p. 468-9. Sequel to the foregoing Account of the
large Fossil Teeth.

A

List of *Peter Collinson's* Communications,

Printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

1751. Dec. p. 561. **A** List of *American Seeds* imported in 1757, with some Instructions for their Cultivation.

1755. Nov. 503. Some Observations on the *White-Pine*, commonly called the *Weymouth Pine*.

Dec. 551. Further Observations on the *Weymouth* and other *American Pines*.

1756. Jan. 16. Observations on the *Fir Tree*.

March. 113. Remarks on the Cultivation of some Species of *North-American Evergreen Trees*.

1763. Sept. 419. A Plan for a lasting *Peace* with the *Indians*.

1764. June. 273. Some Anecdotes of the Life of the late Dr. *Stephen Hales*.

1765. April. 159. An Account of the *Sycamore*, or *Eastern Plane-Tree*.

May. 211. Account of the Life of the late Dr. *William Stukeley*.

1765. *Suppl.* p. 596. An Account of the Introduction of the *Tea-Tree* of *China*; and of the elegantly spotted *Menseil-Deer* of *Bengal*, into *England*.

1766. *June.* 278. Account of the Introduction of *Rice* and *Tar* into our *American Colonies*.

July. 321. Description of the Ancient *Chestnut Tree* at *Tortsworth* in *Gloucestershire*.

F I N I S.

MINUTES, &c.
OF THE
MEDICAL SOCIETY,
RESPECTING THE
FOTHERGILLIAN MEDAL.

TO the MEDICAL SOCIETY of *London.*

GENTLEMEN,

TO preserve the memory of illustrious characters by some permanent memorial, is not only grateful to the friends of the deceased, but excites in the living that commendable emulation, which leads to great and virtuous actions. Such were those which will render dear to distant posterity the name of Dr. JOHN FOTHERGILL; in memorial of whom I have ordered a *Medal* to be struck, under the patronage and at the disposal of the *Medical Society of London*, held in *Crane-Court*,

Fleet-Street. It will be in gold, of ten guineas value, to be called the FOTHERGILLIAN MEDAL, and will be given annually, on the 8th day of *March*, to the author of the best Essay upon a prize question, proposed by the Society, on a subject of *Medicine* or *Natural History*.

The manner of proposing the annual question, and of determining upon the merits of the memoirs of the candidates, I refer to the determination of the Society ; being persuaded, from the unanimity of their meetings, and the learning and judgment of their members, that their decisions will be calculated to promote medical science in particular, and physics in general, which are my motives for requesting their patronage of the FOTHERGILLIAN MEDAL.

JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM.

London,
May 25, 1784.

LONDON

LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Crane Court, 4th June 1784.

SIR,

AT a special meeting of the *Medical Society*, convened for the purpose of taking into consideration your very liberal proposal of the FOTHERGILLIAN MEDAL, to be disposed of annually, at the option, and under the patronage of this Society :

I am ordered to inform you, that the same has been considered accordingly, and met that warm reception and approbation such a distinguished favour was so well entitled to :

And that this Society, being highly sensible how much you had thereby contributed to its advantage and reputation, order me to present you with the Thanks which were unanimously voted to you at this meeting.

By order of the Society,

WM. WOODVILLE,

(One of the Secretaries)

To J. C. Lettson, M. D. &c.

The

THE following Members of the Medical Society, being appointed a Committee to consider of the plan and distribution of the FOTHERGILLIAN MEDAL; viz.

JAMES SIMS, M. D.

WILLIAM WOODVILLE, M. D.

JOHN MEYER, M. D.

WILLIAM HAMILTON, M. D.

JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM, M. D.

Mr. WILLIAM NORRIS;

Recommend, That the obverse of the Medal exhibit

The head of Dr. FOTHERGILL, with this legend;

FOTHERGILLIUS. MEDICUS. AMICUS.
HOMO.

In the exergue—*Nat. Mart.* 8, 1712.
Ob. Dec. 26, 1780.

The reverse—Hygeia standing near the tomb of Dr. FOTHERGILL, holding in her right hand a wreath to crown the successful candidate, who is presented by Æsculapius.

The legend—DON. SOC. MED. LOND.
AN. SAL. 1773, INSTITUT.

REGU-

REGULATIONS *respecting the* MEDAL.

1. THAT the Medal be given annually to the author of the best Dissertation on a subject proposed by the Society, for which the learned of all countries shall be invited as candidates.

2. Each Dissertation shall be delivered to the Secretary, written in a legible hand, in the Latin, English, or French language, at least two months before the meeting for adjudging the Medal.

3. With it shall be delivered a sealed packet, with some device on the outside ; and within, the author's name and designation.

4. The same device shall be put on the Dissertation, that the Society may know how to address the successful candidate.

5. There shall be a Committee appointed by the Society, for the purpose of adjudging this Medal, consisting of the Council ; to whom shall be joined such other Members as the Society shall think proper ; and their sentence shall be final.

6. The

6. The Medal shall be adjudged on the 8th day of *March*, that being the birthday of the late Dr. FOTHERGILL. The first Medal shall be adjudged in the year 1787.

7. No Dissertation with the name of the author affixed can be received, that the Committee may decide on the merits of each, without any knowledge of, or partiality for, the author.

8. All the Dissertations, the successful one excepted, shall be returned, if desired, with the packets unopened which contain the names of the authors.

The following Question is proposed as the subject for the first Prize Medal :

“ *What diseases may be mitigated or cured
“ by exciting particular affections or pas-
“ sions of the mind ?*”

I N D E X.

A P P E N D I X.

BESIDES the Lives of Dr. FOTHERGILL, already mentioned in the Preface, Dr. *Simmons*, in his valuable publication entitled *The London Medical Journal*, vol. iv. anno 1784, has given “*Biographical Anecdotes of the late JOHN FOTHERGILL, M. D. &c.*” consisting of twenty-seven octavo pages.

In the fourth volume of the *Histoire de la Société Royale de Médecine*, anno 1780, 1781, Dr. *Vicq d’Azyr* has published *ELOGE de M. FOTHERGILL*, in thirty-four quarto pages, wherein he politely acknowledges “*Je dois à M. Lettsom la plus grande partie des renseignemens que j’ai reçus sur la vie de M. FOTHERGILL.*”

In the forty-sixth page of the foregoing *Memoirs*, Cinnamon and some other spices
are

A P P E N D I X.

are cursorily introduced: it might have been added, that, “ not only the Cinna-
“ mon-Tree, but a great number of other
“ valuable plants, the natives of the spice-
“ islands in the East, are happily planted
“ and growing in a luxuriant state in *Ja-*
“ *maica*, owing to the care and attention
“ of Lord *Rodney*, who, during his ever-
“ memorable and successful voyage in the
“ *West-Indies*, in the course of the late
“ war, ordered a ship which the *French*
“ had purposely sent from the *Isle of Bour-*
“ *bon* to *Martinique* with those Plants on
“ board, but which was fortunately taken
“ by one of his lordship’s cruisers, to be
“ immediately sent to *Jamaica*, and the
“ plants placed under the care of a proper
“ gardener.”

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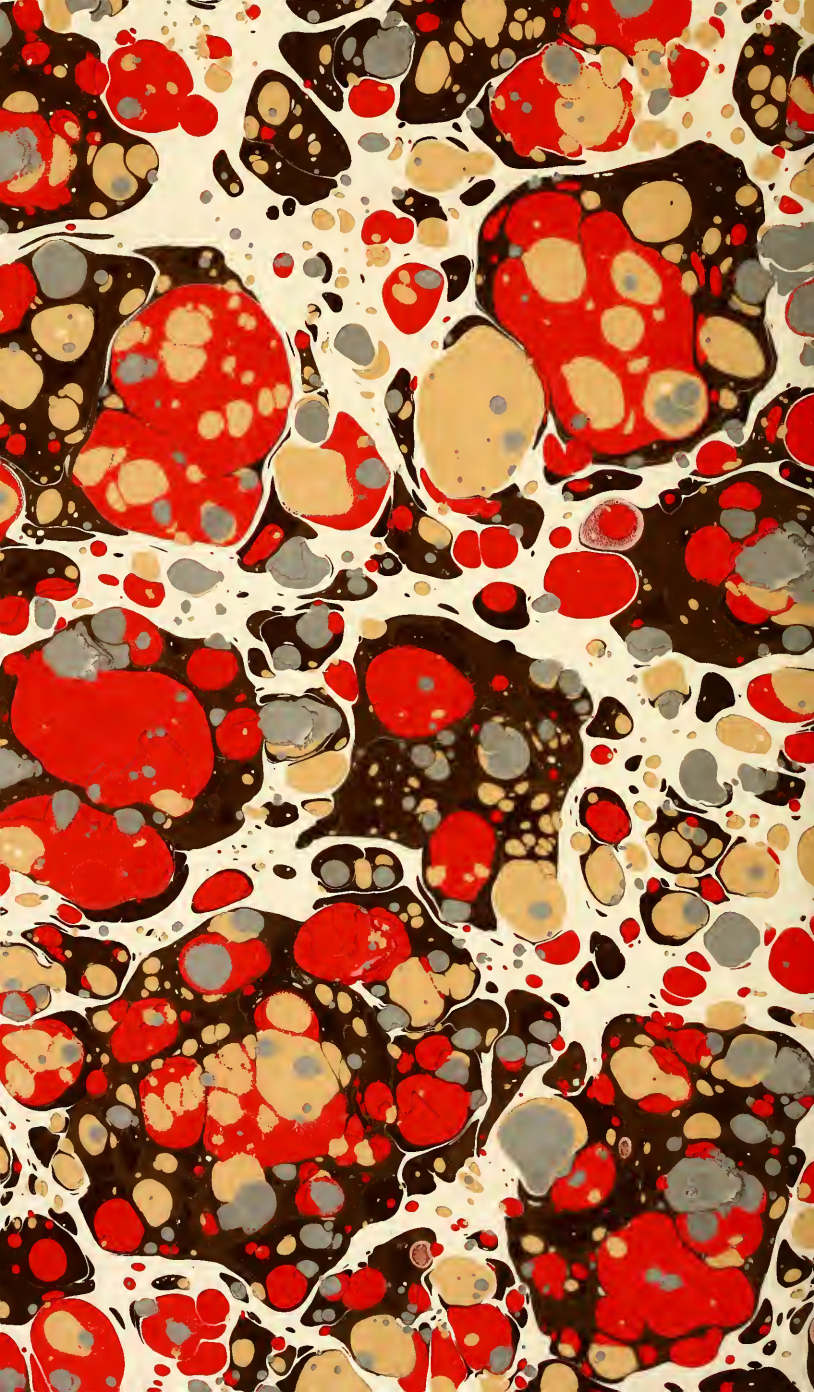
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